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POETRY AND REMEMBRANCE P12

THE TIMES

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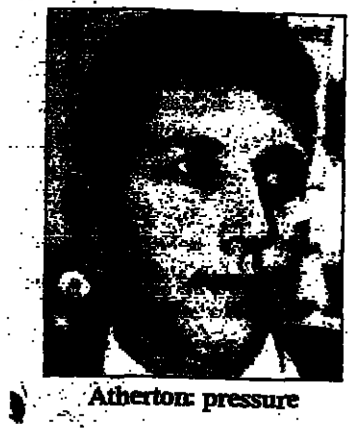
Cricketers' wives dismayed at being given out by Atherton



Atherton: pressure

By Joanna Bale and Russell Jenkins

CRICKETERS' wives and girlfriends were split yesterday by a decision by Mike Atherton, the England captain, to urge them to stay away from this winter's 14-week tour of Zimbabwe and New Zealand.

The first ban of its kind follows concern about the 1995-96 tour of South Africa when an unprecedented influx of about 45 wives, girlfriends, children and nannies was considered a distraction and blamed for the team's dismal performance.

Many of the wives, who have been accompanying their husbands on tour in increasing numbers since the advent of cheap air travel, are angry at being excluded. Denise Fraser, 31, wife of Middlesex seam bowler Angus Fraser who went on last winter's tour, said players were torn between their professional duties and their responsibilities as parents.

She said the South African tour was exceptional but "it is a long winter tour and I find it hard that families are being penalised at Christmas at a time when families should be together." Mrs Fraser, mother of three year old Alexander and Bethan, 16 months, said that had Angus been selected, which he had not, she would not have gone this year. "You are on holiday yourself but your partner is not. They are there to do a job and this can lead to tension. You can get in the way."

With lurid, but fiercely denied, allegations of on-tour philanderings involving former players like Ian Botham — even Botham's autobiography is subtitled *Don't Tell Kath* — the wives will undoubtably be left at home worrying about what their husbands are up to.

Frances Edmonds, wife of the former England cricketer Phil, said yesterday that keeping wives away would only encourage players to misbehave. "I think management, indeed Government, should be supporting and subsidising the wives to go on tour because that it the only gilt-edged guarantee of getting these guys in bed at a sensible time at night and possibly in good nick to play the next day."

Atherton's appeal to players to keep their women and children away was made during the team's training trip to Portugal this week and backed up by tour manager John Barclay. Although players will not be disciplined if their wives turn up, they are under immense pressure not to "let the side down" by disobeying their captain.

Alan Lee, *The Times* cricket writer who went on last year's South African tour, said "Atherton has now captained three overseas tours, and on each, particulary the last one,

Continued on page 2, col 2

WG Grace and wife Agnes — "honeymoon tour"

Leading article, page 23

Tories get free vote on return of the cane

By Philip Webster, political editor

JOHN MAJOR has decided to bow to the demands of Conservative backbenchers by granting them a free vote on the return of corporal punishment in state schools.

The move is designed to defuse a potential revolt among Tory MPs who want the Government to be doing more to tackle the problem of school discipline, a view strengthened by recent developments which led first to the closure of The Ridings School at Halifax, and then the expulsion of 12 pupils and the suspension of 23 others.

The free vote plan was confirmed by informed government sources. However, unlike the last vote in 1986, ministers and parliamentary aides will be expected to follow the official government line against corporal punishment.

Although the Prime Minister is happy to allow backbench MPs to exercise a conscience vote, the government line is that the issue was closed by the 1986 decision, in which Mr Major voted for keeping the cane, and that the Government should stick to it.

Mr Major was initially opposed to granting a free vote to MPs. But he has been persuaded that it is the best way of preventing an unnecessary revolt which would divert attention from the measures contained in the Education Bill, whose second reading will be debated on Monday, which is designed to improve school discipline.

He has accepted that with Labour firmly opposed to bringing back the cane, the Government would win in any case, and there is little point in staging a fight with his own side. He is reported by friends to accept that there is a "head of steam" behind caning at present and that he should allow Tory MPs to express their views. With Labour MPs required to vote against caning and the government "payroll" vote of 116 MPs under a similar obligation, the Government will easily prevail.

The caning vote will not take place until January or February, when the Education Bill returns to the floor of the House on its report stage, by which time ministers hope that passions will be have been calmed and the issue will be dealt with in a restrained way.

The move will not go far enough to satisfy the leading campaigners for corporal punishment, such as James Pawsey, chairman of the backbench education committee, who will argue that ministers, too, should be allowed a free vote. MPs have been complaining privately that Mr Major is out of touch with the feeling in the country that corporal punishment should be restored.

The majority view in the Cabinet now appears to be against caning but several key members including Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, and William Hague, the Welsh secretary, are known to be in favour.

The current controversy within the Tory ranks was initiated by Mrs Shephard's suggesting in a BBC radio interview that corporal punishment could be a "very useful deterrent". She was swiftly told by Mr Major in a telephone call that she should not press the idea any further. But of the present Cabinet Mr Major, Michael Heseltine, Kenneth Clarke, Mr Howard, Stephen Dorrell, Roger Freeman, Brian Mawhinney and Virginia Bottomley all backed caning in 1986 when a vote to keep it was defeated by only one vote.

Mr Pawsey is planning to table an amendment to the Education Bill seeking to include caning in the new home-school contracts set out in the legislation. The idea is to allow parents to have the option to elect for their children to face corporal punishment as an alternative to exclusion from school.

Leading article, page 23

PETER NICHOLLS

Commander Judy Davison, of the City of London Police, riding Keswick. Today she will become the first woman to lead the Lord Mayor's procession.

Chirac supports Major over 48-hour week

By Jill Sherman, chief political correspondent

PRESIDENT CHIRAC last night gave John Major surprise backing for his determination not to give way to Brussels over a 48-hour working week.

M Chirac stunned British ministers at the end of the Anglo-French summit in Bordeaux when he offered the Prime Minister support for his challenge in the European Court of Justice over attempts by the European Commission to impose a maximum 48-hour week in Britain.

France has consistently campaigned for improved workers' rights in Europe, and M Chirac's comments were last night being treated with some scepticism. French officials argued that he was backing Britain's general opposition to the power of the European Court, but Downing Street took his remarks at face value. "We have made our reasoned argument quite clear. We welcome his support," a spokesman said.

The court is widely expected to rule against Britain next Tuesday and to insist that the directive on hours be introduced in the United Kingdom. But Mr Major has already made clear that he intends to seek changes to the Maastricht treaty to ensure that Britain can secure an opt-out from the directive. He has also warned that he is prepared to wield Britain's veto to obstruct developments that other European Union countries want if they fail to agree to his demands.

Yesterday President Chirac indicated that he might even back Mr Major in his efforts to secure support from his European colleagues for changes in the Maastricht rules so that the working-hours directive falls under social policy, from which Britain already has an opt-out.

Asked specifically about Mr Major's determination to seek treaty changes should Britain lose its European Court challenge, M Chirac said: "On the dispute between the United Kingdom and the court, I am very close to John Major's position and quite prepared to support him."

British ministers were bemused by the French leader's comments, but the Prime Minister, who was conducting a joint press conference with him, did not remark on his apparent change of heart. There was immediate speculation that Mr Major had in return promised to help President Chirac in his efforts to secure developments in the EU at the inter-governmental conference. Britain and France agree on the need for reforms in the weighting of voting, changes to the size of the Commission and reforms in the European Court.

But President Chirac later confused the issue by making clear that he did not think that flexibility on employment rights had helped Britain achieve its current economic success. M Chirac also emphasised that France supported a social model and workers' rights throughout Europe. "The social benefits we have and enjoy should not

Continued on page 2, col5

Manchester City manager takes himself off with stress after 33 days

Coppell: overwhelmed

By John Goodbody

STEVE COPPELL resigned yesterday after only 33 days as the Manchester City manager, saying that the pressure of the job was damaging his health.

Coppell, one of the most respected figures in English football, said he had been advised to give up on medical advice and was "extremely embarrassed by the situation". He apologised to the City board, which has been trying to lead the club out of the shadow of Manchester United, the Premiership champions and FA Cup-holders.

Coppell said: "I am not ashamed to admit that I have suffered for some time from the huge pressure I have imposed upon myself and, since my appointment, this has completely overwhelmed me to such an extent that I cannot function in the job in the way that I would like to. This is the hardest thing I have ever had to do and I can only say the decision I have made is an honest one, made in the best interests of the club and myself."

His decision is a particular blow to Francis Lee, the City chairman, who had chosen Coppell, a former Crystal Palace manager, after trying to lure both George Graham and Dave Bassett to the club.

Lee said that he been trying for a week to persuade Coppell to stay at Maine Road. He added pointedly: "I don't think a job can overwhelm anyone in 30 days but Steve has been advised to resign on medical grounds." Of Coppell's first five games in charge, City had won two, lost three and drawn one. They are 17th in the first division.

Remembrance Day: The Bishop of Wakefield remembers his father, a bomber pilot killed in 1943, as well as the living who have not known a father's love ... **Credo, page 12**

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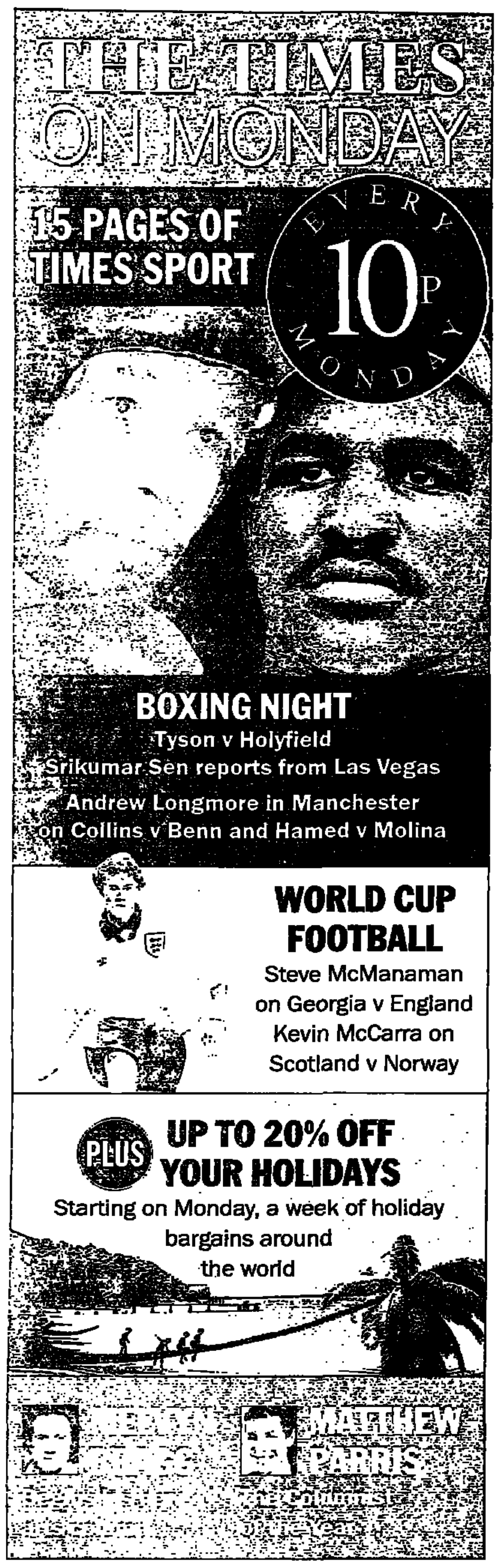
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MATTHEW PARRIS

Six Britons feared dead in Nigerian air crash

By Stephen Farrell

SIX British businessmen are feared dead after a Nigerian domestic flight crashed minutes before landing in Lagos. They were among 132 passengers and nine crew aboard the Boeing 727 which plunged into mangrove swamps near Imota, 40 miles southeast of Lagos.

Another crew in the area was reported to have seen a ball of flames in the sky shortly after Flight ADC 086 lost contact with air traffic controllers at 5pm on Thursday. Another report claimed the pilot had alerted the airport to prepare for an emergency landing just before his aircraft vanished.

"From the information I have, it would seem the plane just plunged into the lagoon," Nigeria's Aviation Minister, Ita Udoh Umeh, said last night. There was no sign of survivors and rescue workers reported seeing the aircraft's tail protruding from the muddy ground.

The aircraft was operated by Aviation Development Corporation, one of Nigeria's private commercial airlines. The flight to Lagos from the oil-producing city of Port Harcourt, in southeastern Nigeria, is one regularly used by foreign businessmen.

Relatives of those missing gathered yesterday at the offices of the Federal Airports Authority, many weeping, as helicopters donated by foreign oil companies helped Nigerian police, soldiers and aviation authority staff in a search of the area.

John Wattam, a spokesman for the British High Commission in Lagos, said the cause and exact location of the crash were unclear, but parts of the Boeing were reported to have been sighted at Ikorodu, a lagoon area about half an hour's drive from Lagos itself.

He said: "The British nationals involved are a group of businessmen apparently of English origin working for different companies within the oil industry. Some were visiting Nigeria and some appear to be resident here. At the moment we have a list of sorts but information is very sketchy. Quite often people buy tickets in different names."

Adams and Irving are denied entry to Australia

From Roger Maynard in Sydney and Nicholas Watt

GERRY ADAMS was refused an entry visa yesterday to tour Australia to promote his autobiography. John Howard, the Australian Prime Minister, defended the move and also the decision to deny entry to David Irving, the right-wing historian.

Both men had applied for permission to travel to Australia after Mr Howard emphasised his government's commitment to the right to free speech. But the Prime Minister insisted their applications to visit Australia had nothing to do with free speech.

"It's got to do with the unfitness of both of them on character grounds to come here," he said. "This idea that it's got anything to do with free speech is spurious. Any government has got the right to say to somebody who has a record of criminal convictions, 'You can't come here'."

Referring to Mr Irving, Mr Howard said: "He's a crackpot historian, but it doesn't alter the fact that he was convicted in the United Kingdom, he was convicted in Germany, he was convicted in Canada, and two of the offences as I understand are related to passport, immigration or visa issues."

Turning to Mr Adams, he said the Sinn Fein president was the head of a party that was the political mouthpiece of a terrorist organisation. "I would have thought there was an open and shut case, and once again it has precious little to do with free speech."

Unionists hailed the Australian Government's decision as a courageous move. John Taylor, the deputy leader of the Ulster Unionists, said: "I would like to see the Americans follow this great lead given by Australia and demonstrate that in the US, democratic politics also prevail."

But Sinn Fein reacted angrily to the decision and accused Canberra of bowing to pressure from Britain. Dodie McGuinness, a senior member of the party in Londonderry, said that closing doors on Mr Adams would not help his efforts to restore the Northern Ireland peace process. She added that people of Irish descent in Australia would be disappointed.

The Australian decision also drew a sharp response from Steve MacDonogh, the editorial director of Brandon Books which is publishing Mr Adams's autobiography in conjunction with William Heinemann. He said: "The Australian Government has chosen to exclude Mr Adams because of the British pressure that was brought on them. The British Government seem to have an obsession with silencing people."

Mr Adams, 48, plans to visit the United States next year to promote his autobiography *Before the Dawn*.

John Major and President Chirac reviewing an honour guard yesterday

Backing for 48-hour week

Continued from page 1

be challenged", he said. These remarks were later interpreted as meaning that he did not object to Mr Major's attempts to secure an opt-out, but that this should no derail the efforts of other countries to improve workers' rights.

Mr Major made clear at the press conference that he had no intention of bowing to Brussels on the 48-hour week. He insisted that he would seek Maastricht treaty changes and argued that he did not consider that Brussels had the right to impose working conditions on other countries.

He emphasised that he had made it clear to his European colleagues that he regarded this issue with the utmost importance and indicated that he would scupper the intergovernmental conference if they refused to go along.

Mr Major declared that he considered himself a "convinced European" but said this did not mean he agreed with every aspect of the way in which Europe was developing. "A good European does not gently slide behind his colleagues and say 'I don't like this but I am going to follow the herd'. A good European, if he thinks something is wrong sounds the alarm and says so. And this is the role of the UK."

Later, in answer to questions, it became clear that Mr Major and M Chirac had had frank exchanges over France's decision to use a one-off transfer from French Telecom to help reduce its debt so that it can meet meet the economic convergence criteria needed to join a single currency. Mr Major pointedly refused to accept a recent report which suggested that at least 12 members of the European Union would be able to join a single currency by January 1999.

The Prime Minister said he did not recognise descriptions of the report's findings in the press and did not believe that these countries would be ready if they adhered to the strict criteria laid down under the Maastricht treaty. "I would be surprised if by January 1, 1999, anything like 12 nations would qualify on the strict interpretation of the criteria."

He conceded, however, that countries might try to get round these rigid rules. "If the criteria are interpreted liberally, more countries will qualify," the Prime Minister said.

But President Chirac put forward a strong defence of his decision to accept the payment from French Telecom, claiming that the idea had been checked with financial experts and lawyers who made it clear that the deal was justified under existing Maastricht treaty conditions.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ashdown attack on spin doctors

Leading politicians are being manipulated by backroom "political mechanics" into ducking key issues to avoid offending middle-class voters, Paddy Ashdown said yesterday. The Liberal Democrat leader, at a rally in London, criticised his rivals for allowing spin doctors to plan a general election campaign intended to ignore controversial issues.

Mr Ashdown attacked the culture in which leaders of the two main parties tried to "puff small things up into big ones, and ignore the really big ones altogether".

Marriage fraud

British and Belgian detectives have arrested 39 people involved in a marriage fraud designed to give scores of illegal immigrants EU status. Hampshire police have spent the past week working in Belgium with 80 local officers following the charging of 19 people in Britain in March.

Sherbert dealer

A boy aged 11 was arrested and suspended from his primary school after police drug tests wrongly identified his bag of sherbert as speed, the Class A drug amphetamine sulphate. The boy's parents last night threatened legal action against Cleveland Police and the school.

£1m bypass claim

Sir William Reid, the Parliamentary Ombudsman, has written to a couple whose £450,000 home in Wroxham, Norfolk, was rendered worthless by bypass plans to say he is reviewing their claim for compensation. Maurice and Audrey Blachin's claim may be in excess of £1 million.

Quick step

Alan Chambers will become his own step-grandfather when he marries Anne Whittaker in Barnsley, west Yorkshire, in February. Mrs Whittaker, 69, is the mother of Wilson Bray, who married Alan's mother, May, 68, two months ago. Alan, 42, will be stepfather to his own mother.

Carey did not approve gay service

By Ruth Gledhill

THE Archbishop of Canterbury yesterday distanced himself from a service at Southwark Cathedral to be held by the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement, saying he stood by church teaching that practising homosexual relationships are wrong.

Dr George Carey, whose office has been deluged with protests against the service, made clear that he had had no say in allowing it to go ahead. However, he endorsed the right of all Christians to pray in any church or cathedral.

Next Saturday's service has been organised to celebrate the movement's 20th anniversary. The Provost, the Very Rev Colin Slee, and his chapter, were entitled to allow it to go ahead because of the autonomy enjoyed by cathedrals. They were not available for comment last night.

More than 2,000 people are expected to attend the service, with demand for tickets so strong that hundreds of worshippers are being put in an adjacent hall.

Preacher of the Year, Weekend, page 15

Stumps drawn on wives

Continued from page 1

there has been this huge influx of families which has dissipated the good team spirit.

"Unless you have been on tour, it is difficult to understand the general ambiance and bonding that is the essence of a successful cricket tour. Atherton thinks that when the wives are around, their minds are not fully on the game. When the women are not there the players live in each others' pockets — they share rooms with each other, eat together and relax together which helps them to focus on the game."

Mrs Edmonds, however, believes that wives are being made scapegoats for poor performance. She said: "I've been on five tours and I have noticed for example that in the West Indies, when there were relatively few wives out there, the guys were hammered. Then we went to Australia the next year and we won everything — wives and girlfriends have absolutely no effect on what the boys are doing. On the 1986-87 tour of Australia, when we won everything, Ian Botham had his wife, nanny, three children, a minder and a stretch limo and it didn't seem to affect his play."

While marital arguments and sleepless nights for those with young children are the most common problems, more dramatic incidents have convinced Atherton that wives are "bad news".

On the 1994-95 tour of Australia, Phil Tufnell, a notoriously temperamental player, had to be admitted to a psychiatric hospital for several hours after flying into an uncontrollable rage and trashing his hotel room following a series of rows on the telephone with his new wife Lisa who was begging him to be faithful. The air stewardess knew his previous form, having met him on a tour when he was still living with Jane McEvoy, the mother of his daughter Ellie.

Edmonds: wives get men to bed early

One source from the tour said: "When Lisa eventually came out to Australia, matters got even worse and they rowed all the time, causing a hugely unpleasant atmosphere." Tufnell has not played for England since.

Atherton is following the example of Allan Border, the former captain of Australia, who banned wives on their victorious 1989 tour of England. Border said later that it had been the most "focused" tour he had ever been on.

Although WG Grace's tour of Australia in 1873 became known as his "honeymoon tour" when he took his new wife Agnes with him a few days after their wedding, it is only recently that players have taken their families.

Vivienne Close, 55, wife the legendary former England captain Brian, was used to being left at home in west Yorkshire. Married for 32 years, she said: "He always used to say to me that he'd never take me to the 'office'. Anyway, it really wasn't applicable in our time purely for financial reasons. You couldn't afford to take your wives abroad. Now they have the money — they have a wonderful time."

Leading article, page 23

Leah parents back nightclub curbs

By James Landale, Political Reporter

THE parents of Leah Betts, the teenager who died a year ago after taking an Ecstasy tablet at a nightclub, yesterday urged MPs to back a Commons move to fight the use of drugs in nightclubs.

Paul and Jan Betts said that the move might not have saved their daughter but would go some way in preventing other children dying in drug-related incidents.

The Public Entertainment Licence Bill would give local authorities powers to close nightclubs immediately if police say there is clear evidence of a drug problem. At present, clubs can stay open until the management has formally been convicted of breaching licence conditions.

Barry Legg, the Tory MP for Milton Keynes South West, who is sponsoring the move as a Private Member's Bill, said that clubs often prolonged legal proceedings to remain open as long as possible. "I am seeking to prevent unscrupulous clubs dragging out the appeals procedure once the police have decided there are serious drug problems on the premises," he said. "Clubs can continue to operate for up to 12 months and put at risk the lives of young people."

The Bill, published yesterday, was suggested by Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, at the Tory Party conference. Mr Legg hopes that the Bill will reach the statute book by March.

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THE TIMES eurostar TOKEN 12

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Judge lets woman sue for £30,000

Bullies 'blighted life' of girl called Thunder Thighs

By Shirley English

A WOMAN who claims that her life was blighted by bullying in her schooldays defeated an attempt yesterday to stop her suing for £30,000 compensation.

Deborah Scott, 22, says that a year of adolescent torment at one of Edinburgh's leading schools affected her exam results and left her poorly qualified. She is now a hairdresser.

She is claiming damages from the former Lothian Regional Council for negligence, arguing that the council failed in its duty of care when it was responsible for the Royal High School. Yesterday, at the Court of Session in Edinburgh, Lord Macfadyen dismissed the council's objections about its duties and said the case should go to a full hearing.

Miss Scott, from Edinburgh, won the first round in her legal battle after the court was told that she suffered bullying for more than a year from April 1988 to September 1989. She claims that she was first given crude nicknames, then shunned by classmates when she reported the offenders, and then twice attacked and partially stripped. One of the worst incidents was said to have been on her birthday.

Anne Smith, QC, representing Miss Scott, said: "Had she not suffered emotional distress, she would not have under-achieved." The taunting of school bullies, who called her Thunder Thighs and made crude comments about her breasts, led her to take an overdose aged 13.

She had confided in the school rector, who spoke to her parents. The boys involved were reprimanded, but afterwards she claims that most of her classmates refused to speak to her.

Then in June 1989, while she was sitting on a grass verge in the school grounds, she was surrounded by a group of girls who tied her shoelaces together and pushed her to the ground. They pulled off her T-shirt and, in the struggle, her bra snapped.

Three of the girls then forced her against a wall in full view of the boys. Later that day one of the girls poured a plate of spaghetti over her head for no apparent reason. Degrading graffiti about her appeared around the school grounds and the bullying continued.

The most serious incident occurred about three months later on her birthday in September 1989, when a group of six boys and girls jumped on her and stripped her to the waist. They dragged her along the ground, after which she needed treatment from the school nurse. She claimed that, after the incident, she became "notorious among school pupils" and could not face returning to the school.

Deborah Scott: became an under-achiever

She said it was common for pupils to have flour and eggs or flour and water thrown at them on their birthdays. She claims that the council did not have a consistent policy to deal with that type of bullying.

Miss Scott needed psychiatric treatment after the attack on her birthday, and did not return to the classroom for eight months.

She eventually obtained a place at a private establishment, St Denis and Cranley School, Edinburgh, but said that the gap in her education, combined with the emotional distress and change in the curriculum, meant that she never caught up and did not achieve her potential.

Miss Scott claims that she would not have suffered if Lothian council had fulfilled its duty of care. During the year in question, the Royal High School had a rule that pupils had to behave courteously to fellow pupils, but she claimed it had no practical policy to tackle bullying.

There was a lack of encouragement for pupils to report bullying incidents and little support for victims. This meant it was understandable that she had not felt able to report the bullying she suffered after the initial taunting, she claimed.

The council denies liability. Miss Scott has been advised by her lawyers not to speak to the media, but yesterday she said that she was pleased her case would be heard.

DAVID HOWELLS

Two council houses were knocked into one at a cost of £45,000 but the family refuses to move in because the quarter-acre garden is "too small"

Five beds, four baths, but council can keep it

By Kathryn Knight

A MAN with eight children who had two council houses knocked together after claiming that his home was not big enough has refused to move in because he says that the quarter-acre garden is too small.

The local authority paid £45,000 to convert Philip Smith's three-bedroom house and its adjoining property in Upton Scudamore, Wiltshire. But when Mr Smith and his common-law wife Gillian Carter saw the five-bedroom conversion they complained that the garden would not be enough for their new aviary and a vegetable plot. They want the second garden too.

Mr Smith, a former lorry driver, requested a house extension earlier this year, and was moved into temporary housing with Ms Carter, Kim, 18, Melissa, 16, Miranda, 15, Gemma, 13, Nigel, ten, Katie, five, Shane, four, and Craig, six months.

This week their double-glazed, centrally-heated home, with two kitchens, four bathrooms and two lavatories, was ready to be inhabited again. But Mr Smith was having none of it. "I was told I would have both gardens and said it would be ideal for the eight children. I wanted to grow vegetables. I have also got some sheds where I keep my tools and garden machinery and I have bought an aviary," he said. "If I don't get this on my terms, I am not going back."

Ms Carter, the mother of all eight children, denied that they were scroungers. "We don't actually get that much. My brother gets more than we do in benefits. We paid tax until three years ago, when Philip had to retire after three heart attacks ... we need a big garden for the kids, just like anyone else would."

Philip Smith and his wife with six of their children

However, a neighbour said that villagers were disgruntled because Mr Smith's garden was not always tidy. "He used to keep cattle, sheep, chickens and rabbits in his garden and at one stage he had eight cars on the go. God only knows what the place will look like if he gets the other garden," she said.

"I really think Mr Smith is pushing his luck. This is the sort of thing that makes decent, law-abiding folk extremely angry."

Tim Iles, director of communications at West Wiltshire District Council, said: "I think we have done more than enough. He has been provided with the extra accomodation and living space he needs.

"His garden is quite big enough and we can use the other garden for something else. He can put up or shut up." Mr Iles said that if the family did not stop complaining, they could stay in their temporary home — four bedrooms and a small garden — in Warminster while another family was given the converted house.

Passions rise over neighbours' dividing wall

By Bill Frost

THE Cold War may be over in Germany, but in Bristol a new Berlin Wall has gone up to separate feuding neighbours.

Don and Joyce Pritchard have built a 6ft 2in brick wall along their boundary to "blot out" the Clevelys. It was intended to be only few feet high, according the Pritchards, until next door complained, so they just kept going.

Mrs Pritchard, 61, said: "They called it a monster, so we gave them a monster." Her husband, 60, added: "They have shouted abuse at us once too often and I thought the best way to stop them was to build a high wall. I want to blot them out."

The feud began when Kathleen Clevely, 40, and her husband Andrew, 43, built an extension to their semi-detached home in Headley Park, Bristol, which the Pritchards said jutted out over their garden and touched their house. The extension was altered, but relations never recovered. Mr Clevely said: "They are nightmare neighbours. But we have never been abusive."

The wall is within the legal height of 6ft 6in, but Mr Clevely is ready to go to court because he says it is blocking the light. "If it didn't do that I'd be quite happy to have the wall," he said.

Gun club member's wife found shot dead

By A Staff Reporter

A GUN CLUB member apparently attempted suicide after his wife was found dead from shotgun wounds.

Paul Cowdrey, 38, a wealthy estate agent, was arrested at the family home in Hampshire after taking an overdose of painkillers. He was placed under police guard after being admitted to the North Hampshire Hospital, where detectives were last night waiting to interview him.

Earlier they had found the body of his wife Emma, 26, in the living room of the house at Rotherwick, near Basingstoke, with a shotgun lying near by. The couple's six-year-old son Thomas, who was in the village school at the time of his mother's death, is being cared for by relatives.

Detective Sergeant Alan Hastings of Hampshire CID said that Mr Cowdrey would be released into police custody. "We are not looking for anyone else in connection with this, although our inquiries are continuing."

Sgt Hastings said that the shotgun was legally held and kept in a secure cabinet at home. Alan Kean, chairman of Camberley Clay Club, said that Mr Cowdrey practised shooting there every fortnight.

Greedy dentist faces £2m bill from patients

By Paul Wilkinson

A DENTIST whose unnecessary treatments left patients feeling like their mouths were "a war zone" could be facing damages claims for more than £2 million.

Barry Garrett, 48, has already been ordered to pay almost £200,000 to eight patients who successfully sued him last year. Yesterday the High Court granted permission for a new group more than 90 to pursue claims over his former practice at Driffield, east Yorkshire. Mr Garrett was struck off because of complaints, but now is now practising again in Sale, Cheshire, following a period of retraining.

Nigel Walshe, a solicitor representing most of the patients, also successfully applied for an extention of the deadline for claims until December 31 this year. He appealed for anybody who was treated by Mr Garrett to come forward.

The court in Leeds heard last year how Mr Garrett destroyed the healthy teeth of many patients by carrying out unecessary treatment to enhance his fees. His patients were left with bad breath, aching teeth and mentally traumatised. One victim, Jane Appleton, 25, had 99 tooth surfaces worked on unnecessarily and received £21,796 damages.

Another woman, Dawn Eling, 29, complained Mr Garrett had laughed at her after she told him he was hurting her. Her £27,477 award for pain and suffering included £6,000 for psychiatric damage.

Janet Cage, 28, had her mouth wedged open with a block of wood and Richard Longmore, 31, who complained that his mouth was left like a "war zone". Together with four other former patients, they won a total of £184,000.

Mr Walshe, who represents 78 claimants, said he expected the final total to be about £2.3 million if all the claims for bodily trespass and professional negligence were successful. The bill will be met by the Medical and Dental Defence Union of Scotland.

The incidents cover a period from 1982 to 1988. Mr Garrett was struck off by the General Dental Council for "serious professional misconduct" the following year after complaints, but he was allowed to practise again in November 1991 after retraining.

Judge tells mugger to face up to crime

By A Staff Reporter

A MAN who beat up two elderly widows began a life sentence yesterday after a judge insisted that he look at photographs of the horrific injuries he inflicted.

Leslie Salter, 31, left Enid Poole, 90, and Mair Lougher, 86, for dead after tricking his way into their flats at Barry, South Glamorgan.

Mr Justice Tucker ordered that police photographs of their "indescribable" facial injuries be shown to him in the dock at Cardiff Crown Court. Salter, condemned by the judge as "cowardly and callous", glanced at the pictures briefly before he was led back to the cells.

The court had been told that Salter chose vulnerable pensioners living alone. At first he was friendly and polite but then suddenly turned violent to terrify his victims. Mrs Poole and Mrs Lougher, who lived near each other, were repeatedly struck about the head with either an iron bar or a club in robberies on the same afternoon last March.

The lives of both women had been shattered, the court was told. Salter, of Splott, Cardiff, admitted two charges of inflicting grievous bodily harm with intent and 16 other charges.

Birth defect imperils Prince's son

From Quentin Letts in New York

THE BABY boy born last month to the rock star Prince and his wife is seriously ill with a rare birth defect which compresses the skull and requires intricate surgery.

The child, born a month prematurely on October 16 in Minneapolis, is suffering from the condition known as clover-leaf skull syndrome. The baby's skull hardens earlier than it should and forms an unusual shape, leaving the eyes deep-set and the brain compressed. Prince and his wife Mayte, whom he married this summer, made no initial comment but it is understood that they are preparing to appear on American television to discuss the infant's condition and to give greater publicity to the syndrome.

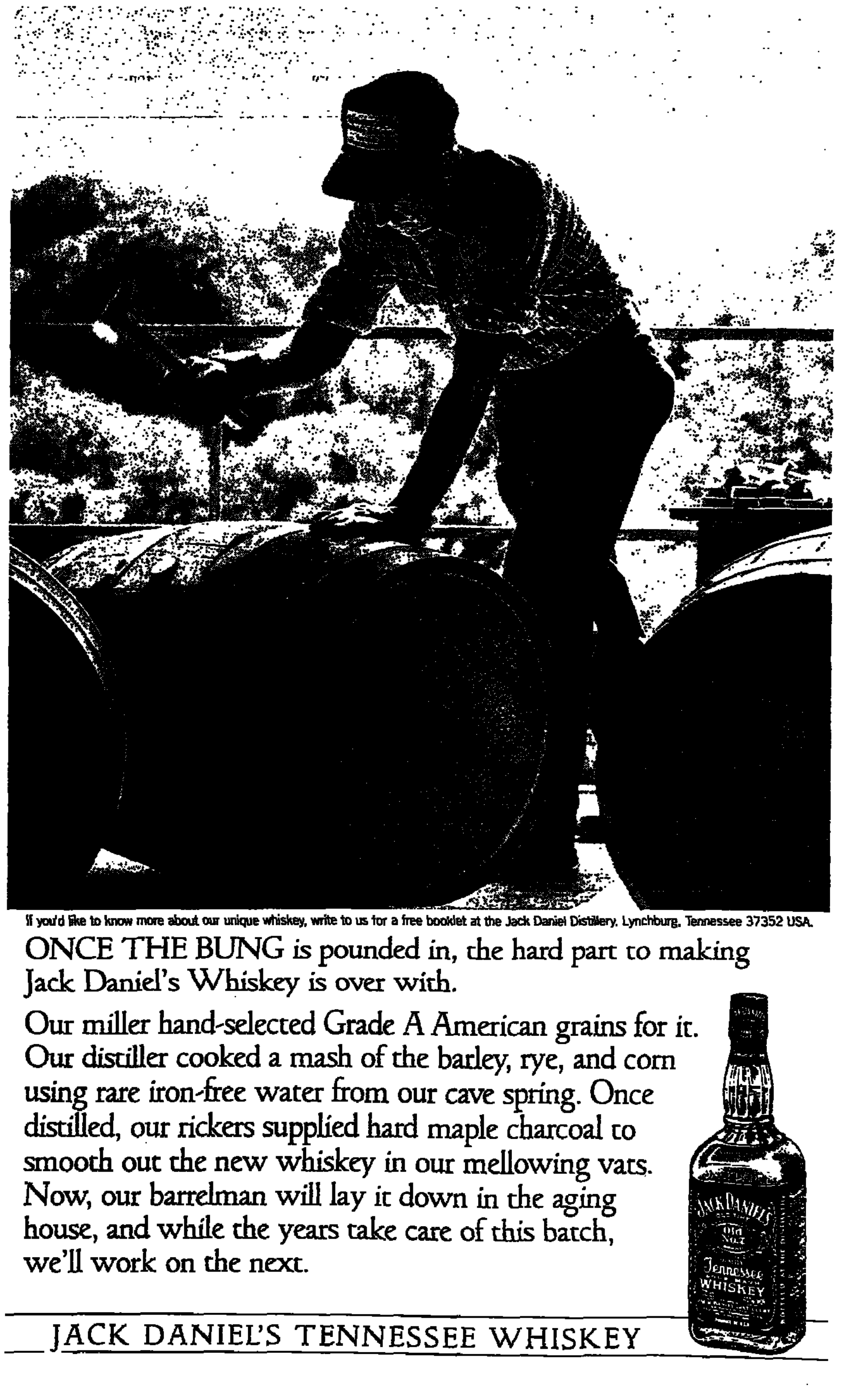
According to one newspaper report the couple, from Chanhassen, Minnesota, were "completely heartbroken" by their child's illness. Prince, 37, who affects to have no name, married Mayte Garcia, a 23-year-old singer, on St Valentine's Day this year. Their wedding was covered live on the Internet and Prince marked the occasion by composing a song entitled "Friend, Lover, Sister, Mother/Wife". They planned to celebrate the birth of their child by recording eight children's songs and developing children's fiction.

A custom-designed merry-go-round and play area was commissioned for the Chanhassen recording studios where the flamboyant singer has made such records as "Purple Rain" and "Lovesexy". The child's name — like that of its father — remains a mystery. The baby's condition is not expected to improve and he may need intricate surgery. It was reported that Prince had spent several thousands of dollars on medical equipment to assist doctors treating his son at the Children's Health Care hospital in Minneapolis.

Prince: to discuss the condition on television

☐ Prince's son has been born with craniosynostosis, the premature closure of the sutures in the skull, the jagged joins in the bones which allow the skull to expand to accommodate the growing brain, (writes Dr Thomas Stuttaford).

His form of the condition, Pfieffer's Syndrome, is a particularly difficult one to treat and requires very complex surgery. The problem is genetic in origin and affect boys much more often than girls. As well as the changes in the skull, which gives it a clover leaf appearance, the children tend to have shallow, flattened eye-sockets so that the eyes are unusually prominent. Often, as in this case, the baby has upper limb deformities and is of small stature. Many of the children have respiratory troubles which compromise their general condition. The drainage of the blood from the brain may also be disturbed and this may make it difficult to perform the surgery which is essential if the skull is to be able to expand.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JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY

Taxi driver jailed over road rage death of cyclist

BY LIN JENKINS

A TAXI driver whose fit of temper caused an accident that killed a cyclist was jailed for 4½ years yesterday.

Anthony Dickinson swerved his black cab at Thomas Gedrich after they argued at a set of traffic lights. Although the cab never hit Mr Gedrich, he lost control and fell off, banging his head on the ground. He was taken to hospital but died from his injuries.

Dickinson, 36, was convicted last month of causing death by dangerous driving. At the Old Bailey yesterday, Recorder John Milford QC told him that he had used his cab as a weapon in a "deliberately hostile piece of driving".

Cara Gedrich, the victim's widow, will continue her civil case for compensation from Dickinson and his insurers.

On the day of the accident in July last year, Dickinson had been working for 12 hours his main job as driver's mate to a newspaper delivery man. He had been held up by a demonstration by cyclists around Waterloo Bridge, London. He had then returned to his home in Raynes Park at 5.30pm to get his taxi and begin plying for hire. During the trial the jury was not told about the anti-car protest.

The judge said: "You became embroiled in an argument with the deceased, who was on a pedal bike. I do not accept that you have given a truthful account of the inception of that argument. Such arguments do not spring from nothing.

"This was a deliberately hostile piece of driving. You did not intend the deceased bodily harm but driving as you did, using your cab as a weapon to frighten the deceased was particularly dangerous to do when the deceased was without a helmet."

The judge said he accepted the evidence of witnesses and of accident investigators who said that the taxi had not struck either the bicycle or Mr Gedrich. Mr Gedrich, of Islington, north London, died shortly after the accident at 8.30pm in daylight at the junction of New Kings Road and Parsons Green Road in Fulham, west London. He struck the road with such force that he left a gouge mark and a 4½-metre skid mark.

His widow, mother of their three-year-old son, who works part-time as a journalist, was not in court to hear the judge deliver his sentence. After the conviction, she said in a statement through her solicitor that she was "deeply relieved that the right verdict had been reached".

During the three-day trail, Stephen Holt, for the prosecution, said that Dickinson and Mr Gedrich were heard arguing at a red light. "When the lights turned green, both the black taxi and the cyclist moved on. As they approached a zebra crossing the taxi suddenly violently and deliberately swerved to the left, causing the cyclist to lose control. Despite a loud thump sound that was heard by people some distance away, the taxi did not stop."

Dickinson was banned from driving for five years.

Thomas Gedrich, left, and Anthony Dickinson

Hours on the road 'should be curbed'

BY LIN JENKINS

ROAD safety campaigners are calling for restrictions on the hours worked by all those who drive for a living. Research has revealed they are responsible for almost a third of deaths on the roads.

Drivers of taxis, delivery vans and company cars are exempt from the laws that govern the time spent behind the wheel by lorry and bus drivers. Many report falling asleep at the wheel, becoming stressed or bad-tempered and suffering fatigue leading to a lack of concentration because of the long hours they spend driving.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents has identified the problem as the "hidden killers on Britain's roads". Unregulated drivers, many of them self-employed people driving cabs or vans, push themselves to the limit, since the time spent in the driving seat relates directly to how much they earn.

Roger Bibbings, occupational safety adviser with the society, said research by the society found that more than 1,000 of the 3,500 deaths a year on the roads were due to accidents caused by people who drive for their jobs but are not subject to regulated hours.

"There are twice as many people killed this way than the number killed at work through other causes. There are laws to reduce the risk of accidents at work and obligations on employers to manage that risk, yet nothing similar applies to driving," he said.

DENZIL McNEELANCE

Paul MacKay, of Imagination, which is designing the zones within the Greenwich dome, with the plans shown to the public yesterday

Greenwich casts wary eye at the future

BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH

THE people of Greenwich, armed with notebooks and steely stares, got a first look at their future yesterday as the plans for the Millennium Exhibition went on display in Borough Hall.

Views on the models of the giant dome were mixed. But, along with anxieties about traffic and noise, there was bewilderment about what would be happening inside the dome, and how it could be put up in time. "It all looks very impressive, but it seems to concentrate on Richard Rogers's designs for the dome. There's no idea of what will be going on inside it," said Iain Gonoude, 27, an actor and writer. "It just looks like a tent full of air," added Mervyn Fernandez, 31. "What's it for? Speeches or concerts or what?"

"I'm disappointed," said Adam Baines, 35. "I was expecting something more than the designs. It doesn't say anything about how they are going to get it done. Or what is going to happen to the site when it's all over."

The deadline for construction is autumn 1999. One of the designers admitted: "Really there isn't a day to spare. It's a tall order."

Concern continues about the commitment of big business to providing the £150 million that the private sector must supply to match the £200 million earmarked by the Millennium Commission for the exhibition. Big names such as BT, British Airways and British Aerospace are involved but much work remains to be done. "We are not in a position to say how much money has been pledged but we are expecting to make an announcement very soon about other companies," said a spokesman for the exhibition.

"We are confident of getting the money between now and February but if the project is going to get off the ground big names must back the scheme. If they don't by February 1, we'll have to forget about it."

The people of Greenwich will have to wait until the spring before details of the dome's 12 sponsored "zones", being designed by the company Imagination, are announced.

Mother attacks race ruling

BY BILL FROST

A WOMAN is to challenge an attempt by social workers to separate her two fostered daughters because one is black and the other white.

They argue that the children would be better off with families of their own colour if permanent foster parents of "mixed race" cannot be found. However, the girls' mother claims that they would be devastated if parted.

The woman, who can be identified only as Ann for legal reasons, agreed to put her daughters into care for "a short spell" while she underwent treatment for a alcohol abuse. "I would never have let them take the girls if I had known they would be split up. They are making a judgment purely on colour."

She added: "They may look very different, but they are very close sisters and love each other." The pair have been looked after together by a white family for the past 14 months and have had regular contact with their natural mother.

However, a new "care plan" drawn up by social workers orders that they should be placed with a family of mixed race. If one cannot be found, the children should be split up with the eldest going to a black family, and the youngest to a white.

A spokesman for Tameside council in Greater Manchester said: "We are aiming to find a situation which best reflects their needs."

A preliminary hearing is to take place next week. The case is then likely to be referred to a County Court judge for a ruling.

Downfall of jockey addicted to heroin

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

A PROMISING young jockey who has raced for some of the country's top trainers was sent to prison yesterday for dealing in heroin.

Robert Waterfield, 23, had ridden a number of flat-race winners since starting as an apprentice in 1991, Reading Crown Court was told. But last year he became addicted to heroin and started to sell the drug to friends from his home in Lambourn, Berkshire, to help to finance his drug habit. He charged £10 a bag.

Police raided the home he shared with his girlfriend Clara Chilvers, 19, in May this year. The couple later admitted supplying the Class A drug, the court was told. Waterfield was jailed for 15 months, and Chilvers was given nine months in a young offenders' institute.

The Jockey club withdrew Waterfield's licence in May.

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صكنا من الاهل

Former judge tells court witnesses to cut out the waffle

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

A FORMER High Court judge gave expert witnesses some blunt advice yesterday on giving evidence in court: "Straight talking, no bullshit."

Sir Michael Davies also warned of the risks involved in anyone trying to bring a little light relief to legal proceedings by putting jokes in a report or offering a quip from the dock. "Witnesses should not make jokes. The judge likes to make the jokes in court," he said.

Sir Michael, 75, who retired in July, criticised experts who tried to impress judges by peppering their reports with Latin phrases or fashionable "buzz words".

The former judge of the Queen's Bench Division advised them against producing overwritten documents in which they pontificated or tried to blind the judiciary with science. Contrary to what the "gutter press" sometimes said, expert witnesses must assume that the judges reading reports were neither lazy nor stupid.

He told a conference in London on specialist evidence in criminal and civil cases that experts should be on their guard against advising the judge on the correct verdict, or producing "a load of bullshit — defined by Chambers Dictionary as 'deceitful humbug'. Please remember that."

Sir Michael added: "Don't use buzz words or words you think are impressive. The latest buzz word is 'paradigm'. 'Parameter' used to be a favourite word a few years ago; I still don't know what it means.

"Why use Latin when English will do ? Don't use *in situ* when you can use in position. If you go to any of my judgments, they may be absolute rubbish, but you won't see any buzz words or Latin," Sir Michael told the launch of the Expert Witness Institute at Church House in Westminster. When experts write reports for court proceedings they should attempt to interest the judge with "pithy documents" and should avoid pages about their qualifications and conferences attended in exotic places such as Bangkok.

"Judges like a clear report, written in plain English and no waffling. Self-importance can show in a report as well as in the witness box. Do not try to put yourself over as self-important, don't try to put yourself over as condescending and do not pontificate," he said.

Sir Michael, who was a High Court judge for 23 years, is to be the chairman of the Expert Witness Institute, which was launched yesterday. Its aim is to educate, train and certify experts, and to provide lawyers with a helpline where they can be put in touch with specialists in particular fields.

LOUISA BULLER

Oiled swans take wing

NEATLY clad in plastic bags for protection during their journey back to the wild, 86 swans were released yesterday after being rescued from an oil spill on the Thames. They were taken to the National Swan Sanctuary at Egham, Surrey, after their feathers were drenched by a five-gallon spill — which spread to the size of two football pitches — on the river near Hampton Court last week. The swans were cleaned with mild detergent until all traces of oil were removed. Officers from the Environment Agency traced the spill to a slipway at a boatyard, where a barrel of oil had been knocked over.

THE SUNDAY TIMES
READ MY LIPS

❛A common cause of gaffes is trying to be nice.
"This is a great day for France," said Richard

Nixon, in Paris for President Pompidou's funeral.
"It's nice to be in Devon again," said Paddy Ashdown, arriving in Cornwall in 1992 . . .❜

Matthew Parris on the things politicians wish they hadn't said

THE SUNDAY TIMES *IS* THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Police want tougher rules for knife shops

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Correspondent

SHOPS should be banned from selling any knife apparently intended as a weapon unless they can prove it has a legitimate use in trade or sports, senior police officers said yesterday.

The Police Superintendents' Association suggested the ban could form part of a workable legal framework under which combat knives could be taken off the market. Chief Superintendent Peter Gammon, vice-president, said that retailers who sold illegal weapons would face fines or even imprisonment. The idea was put forward after a meeting of a committee of operational superintendents from around the country.

The association said that retailers would have to prove legitimate trade or sports use before displaying, advertising or marketing any knife "apparently designed or made solely to injure or wound".

Mr Gammon also said that the Government's proposed new stop-and-search powers, intended to be effective against gangs, did not go far enough. Police want to be able to search individuals they suspect of habitually carrying knives.

Blackpool beaches passed fit for bathers

By A Staff Reporter

BRITAIN'S busiest seaside resort has beaches fit for swimming for the first time in more than 20 years. Figures to be released next week will show that beaches at Blackpool have at last reached the European Union's minimum cleanliness standards.

The resort, which attracts nearly 17 million visitors a year, has been heavily criticised in the past for its dirty sea. But a £500 million project to upgrade the Fylde coast's sewage treatment system came into effect in the summer.

Beaches at Blackpool North and Central, Bispham and Cleveleys now meet EU criteria, and the council expects those at Blackpool South and St Anne's to be up to standard by next year.

"Because Blackpool is the number one resort we have always been in the firing line over water quality," Jane Seddon, a tourism officer, said. "We can now turn round and answer back, and it is a great relief.

"People don't come to Blackpool for its beaches. They come for the land-based attractions. But traditionally and historically, it is very important to us."

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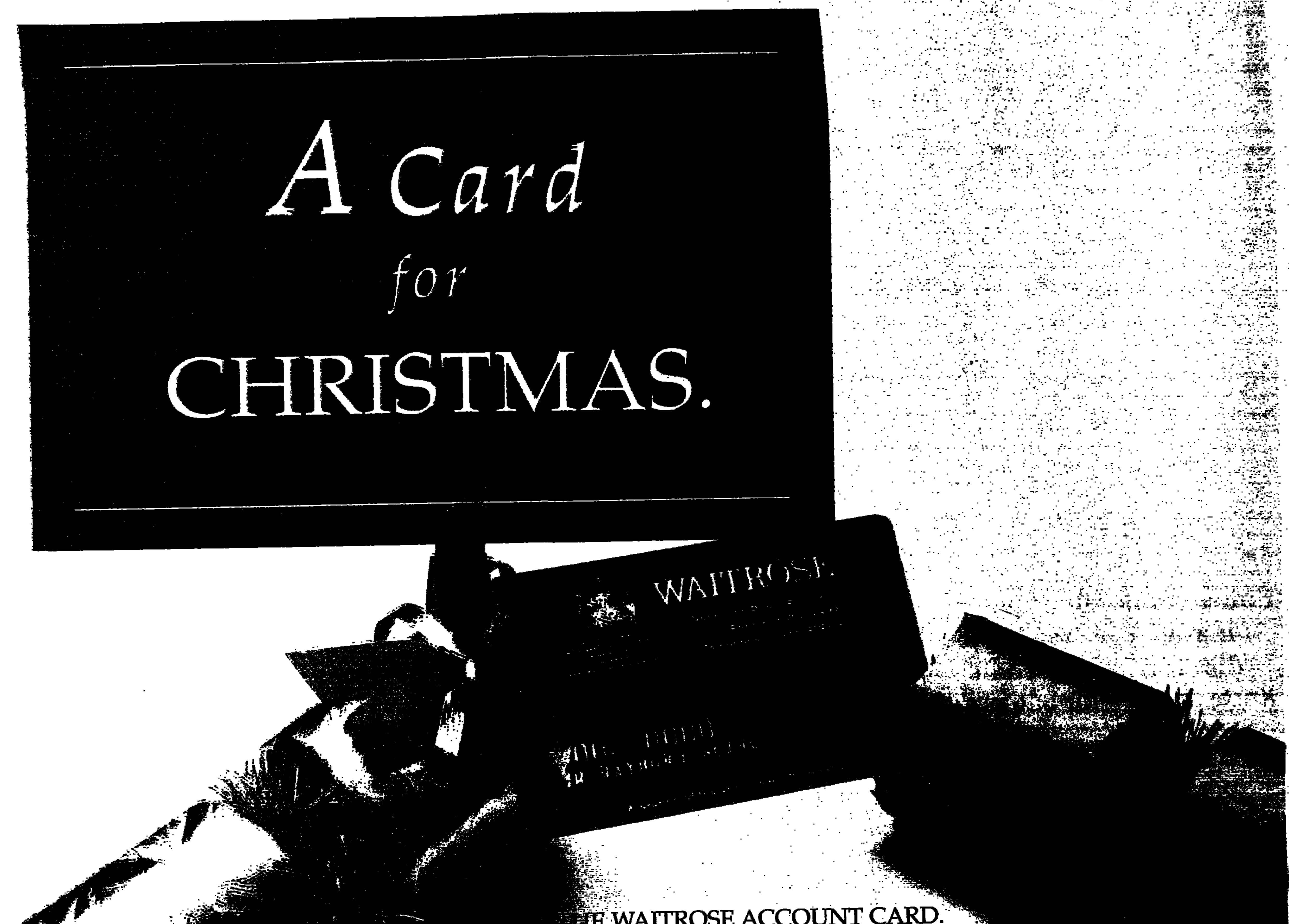

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Mother agrees to move boy from strike-hit school

By John O'Leary, Education Editor

THE mother of the ten-year-old boy whose unruly behaviour caused a teachers' strike agreed yesterday to move him to another school, enabling Manton Junior School, in Worksop, Nottinghamshire, to reopen on Monday.

Pamela Cliffe said she was transferring her son Matthew Wilson for the sake of other pupils. "I had decided on Thursday to take him out of the school for the sake of the others. The important thing now is to get the school open."

Miss Cliffe's solicitor said she was "battle weary" after nearly two months of dispute over her son's behaviour, which culminated in industrial action by staff who refused to teach him. The school has been closed for ten days.

The breakthrough came as Fred Riddell, the chairman of Nottinghamshire education authority, threatened to intervene and to move Matthew against his mother's will. But Miss Cliffe, who resisted previous appeals to transfer her son, had already relented.

She said Matthew's behaviour had improved under individual tuition. "There were no problems, he had a good review and excellent reports. He did all his work and was well behaved." Miss Cliffe added: "All we want to do is get back to a normal life, but that is going to be very difficult for Matthew. They have blackened his name, and I don't know what the future holds for him."

Bill Skelley, the head teacher who ordered the closure on safety grounds when the governors withdrew individual tuition for the boy, said: "I hope now that my school can return to normal and carry on with educating all our pupils."

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, whose members have been on strike, said: "This is a welcome breakthrough. I commend her common sense. It will be better for the youngster."

Mr de Gruchy said the teachers, who have been criticised by Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, had acted courageously. "The whole country owes them a debt of gratitude for standing up for good order and discipline."

The dispute began when Manton's governors twice refused to expel the boy after a string of violent incidents. Matters came to a head when parental opposition forced the governors to end individual tuition for him. Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, which represents Mr Skelley, said: "It is appalling that it has taken so long for this matter to be resolved, but I am delighted that it now is. Had the head teacher's judgment prevailed earlier, pupils at Manton school would not have had their education disrupted."

Mr Riddell said he could foresee "no problem" in securing a place for Matthew at another school, and was planning to contact parents to tell them their school would reopen. Some parents had already moved their children to other schools, and others were considering similar action.

Miss Cliffe's change of heart came a week after the resignation of Eileen Bennett as chairwoman of governors. She strongly supported Miss Cliffe's stand to have Matthew taught along with other pupils, and her resignation appears to have been the watershed in the dispute.

Earlier this week, the school's governors asked the education authority for the first time for help. The authority had also come under pressure from Mrs Shephard, despite insisting that it had no power to intervene.

DOUG MARKE

Pamela Cliffe with her son Matthew yesterday. She said his behaviour had improved under individual tuition

Pupil, 5, is sent home in handcuffs

From Quentin Letts in New York

A DISRUPTIVE five-year-old was sent home from his Louisiana kindergarten in handcuffs, accompanied by a law officer, after he misbehaved in class.

Virgil Speed's misdeed was to roll a large pumpkin at another child, then to resist the reprimand from his teacher at St Rose Primary School, New Orleans. The school called a sheriff's deputy who handcuffed the boy and drove him home in a squad car.

The school claimed that Virgil was an habitual troublemaker, hit a child, and struck a teacher. He was threatened with assault charges. The incident has reignited public debate in America about overcautious school discipline and teachers, overwhelmed by a fear of bureaucracy, who will not use common sense in the classroom.

In the past two months there have been a series of such cases, which began when six-year-old Johnathan Prevette from North Carolina was rebuked for "sexual harassment" after he placed an affectionate peck on the cheek of a girl in his class.

Parents and local politicians yesterday demanded an apology from school authorities for Virgil and his family. Kojo Livingston, a church leader, said: "It's an outrage that trained, professional adult educators would call law enforcement officials to deal with a disruptive five-year-old. It's an outrage that a sheriff would shackle a small child who was not being violent or disruptive when he arrived."

Deana Speed, Virgil's mother, who is still at school herself, admitted that her son was a difficult boy. But she said: "To handcuff a five-year-old means that there is something wrong with the school system and the sheriff's department." She believes he would have been differently treated had he been white and may sue the school.

Number of expelled children still rising

By A Staff Reporter

THE NUMBER of children permanently excluded from school continues to rise, according to research. Dr Carl Parsons, commissioned two years ago by the Government to investigate exclusions, has continued his own survey of education authorities.

Returns from 92 English authorities for 1995-96 show exclusions 8 per cent up on the previous year at 13,400. That means permanent exclusions have risen almost 20 per cent since Dr Parson completed his research for the Department for Education and Employment in 1994.

The department is due to publish its own research suggesting that exclusions have stabilised around 11,000. The department's statistics are based on a survey of individual schools, not on official returns to education authorities.

But Dr Parsons, of Christ Church College, Canterbury, said he suspected schools could have played down the size of the problem. His figures suggest exclusions have risen dramatically from the 2,000 identified in 1991-92. In his own latest survey, more than 80 per cent of exclusions — 11,094 — were from secondary schools. Primary exclusions were also growing at 1,794, but more slowly. There were 531 exclusions from special schools.

University staff vote for shutdown

By David Charter, Education Correspondent

A ONE-DAY university strike was announced yesterday by eight unions representing more than 100,000 staff from porters to professors.

The unions intend to bring about the first shutdown of the British higher education system in protest at pay offers ranging from 1.5 per cent for academics to 2.5 per cent for manual workers. The strike will be on November 19.

Vice-chancellors said that staff were lucky to have been offered any rise after the cuts in higher education funding made in last year's Budget. Last month figures from the Higher Education Funding Council for England showed that more than 70 universities and colleges, including Cambridge, were on course to go into the red by 1999. At present 48 are running at a deficit.

David Triesman, general secretary of the Association of University Teachers, said: "Student numbers have doubled in seven years and research has increased. Staff have got to the point where they will not pay for and sustain this growth out of their own pay and efforts."

The association said it was also considering disrupting examinations, course work assessments and applications. The unions hope that all 160,000 staff at the 162 universities and colleges of higher education will take part. They also agreed to other action, including a work-to-rule.

Average pay for university manual workers was said to be £7,504 and for lecturers £26,000. Among unions who voted for the strike are Manufacturing, Science and Finance, the Tranport and General Workers' Union and Unison.

Steve Rouse, chief executive of the Universities and Colleges Employers' Association, said: "Our funding was cut in cash terms by 2.1 per cent this year so it was a surprise to me it was possible to give a pay increase at all."

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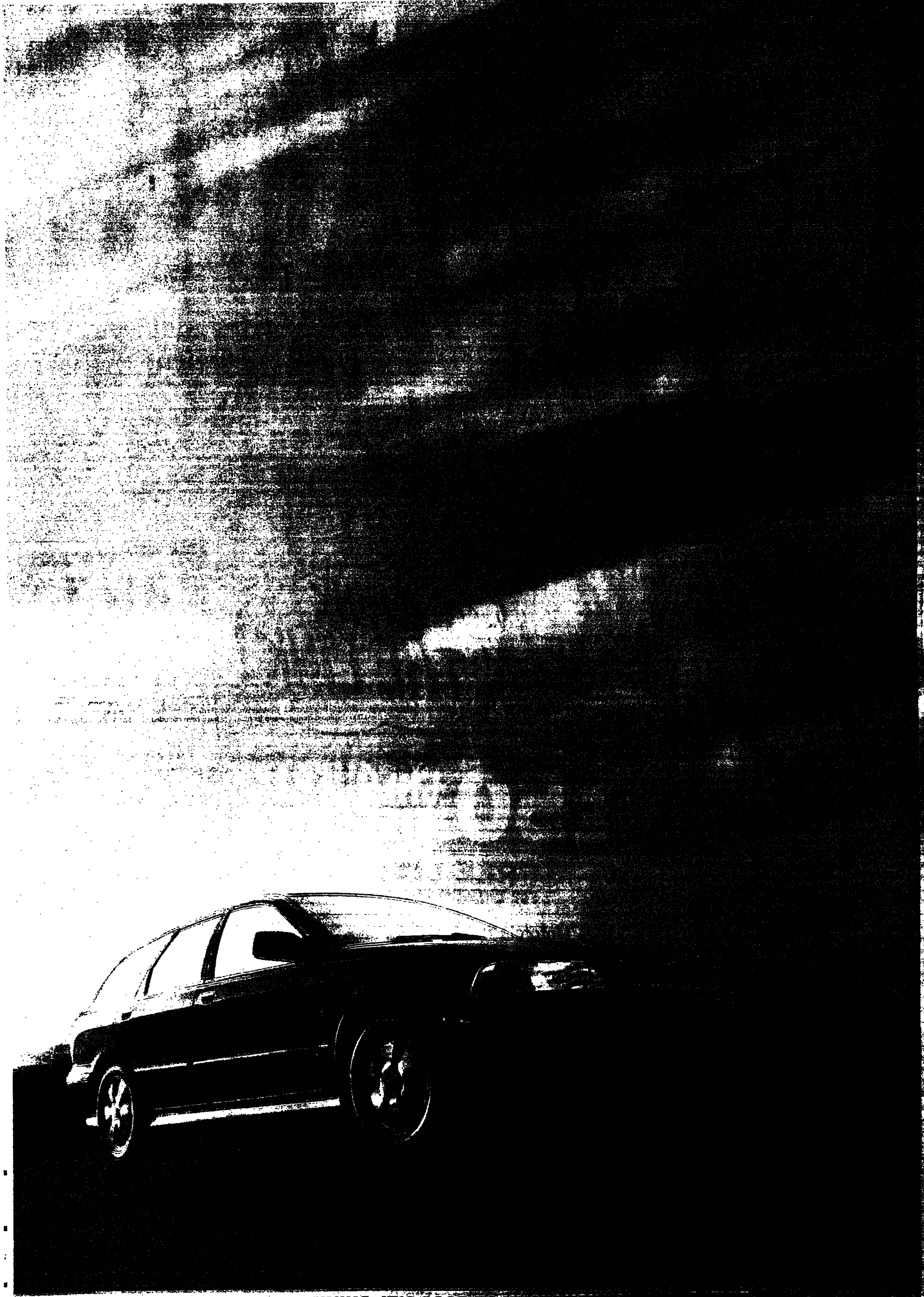

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صكا من الاهل

Four more missing in wake of West deaths

By Dominic Kennedy, Social Affairs Correspondent

POLICE searching for clues to further victims of the mass killer Frederick West have been unable to trace four youngsters who vanished while in the care of Gloucestershire children's homes.

In the biggest investigation of its kind, detectives have been following up the lives of children who went missing from residential homes in the 25 years to 1994. The inquiry was launched after the body of one absconder, Alison Chambers, was found at the Wests' house at 25 Cromwell Street, Gloucester.

Poor record-keeping and a failure to search hard enough for runaway children are condemned in a draft report prepared for the county council. A total of 97 children — including Alison — vanished from the council's four homes. In addition, 396 files on vulnerable children had been lost since 1970.

The police have since managed to find all but four of those missing. One of those not traced was a boy from a travelling family. Details of the other three have not yet been released.

Frederick West boasted that he had killed and buried 20 young people in addition to the 12 bodies of girls and young women which were found at his home and elsewhere. He hanged himself while awaiting trial. His wife, Rosemary, was jailed for life for ten murders. The court was told that the couple made their home a haven for runaways and that several girls who absconded from homes were frequent visitors.

West: he boasted of 20 more murders

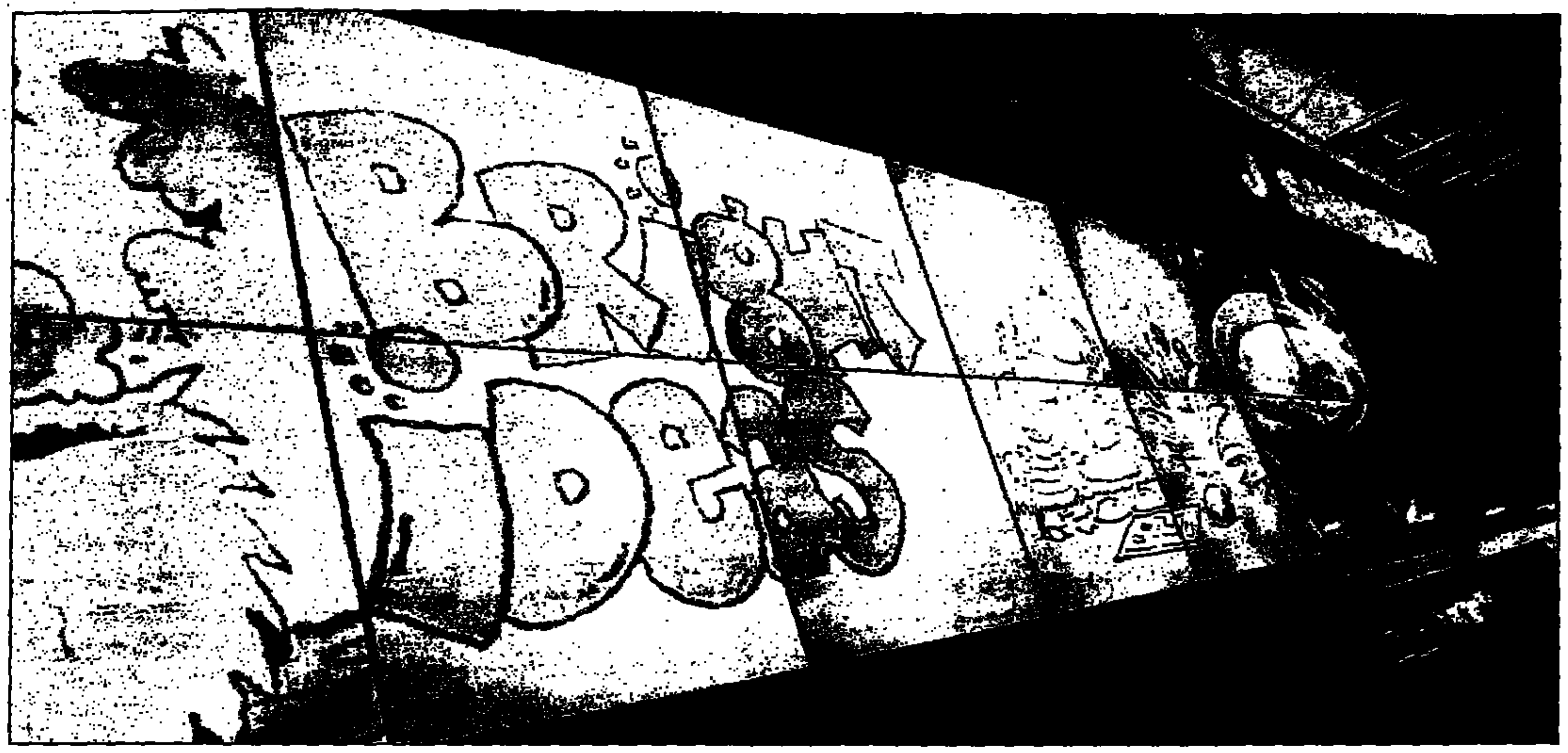
The investigation found no recorded contacts of links between children in care and the West family or their homes at Cromwell Street and Midland Road, although some links were known to exist. The thoroughness of the written accounts was severely criticised. The authors state: "The least trained and least experienced staff ultimately care for the most vulnerable children and young people in society."

Notes on records showed that 78 young people in care were known to have contact with other addresses in both roads. Some suspicious incidents were uncovered. One girl said she had a "Sugar Daddy". An ex-resident of Jordans Brook House — where Alison Chambers had lived — told a story to a current resident about visiting a house with a cellar under strange circumstances.

"As the West case has shown, young people who are already extremely vulnerable can disappear from residential care and suffer tragic consequences. Their disappearance needs to be treated with the same vigour as if the child had disappeared from their family home."

One in six files on the 2,268 children in care in the county had disappeared, but that was "not an unusual figure" compared with other areas. The report recommends the creation of a national missing persons data base.

Bob Lewis, president of the Association of Directors of Social Services, told BBC Radio Five Live: "If it was merely noted that they had disappeared and hadn't been reported to the police and they hadn't tried to trace them, then I believe we have failed significantly in our responsibility."


The video wall that stretches for 17.5 metres in Clapham, south London, to advertise Sainsbury's produce. Only sound will be missing

Store's giant video wall dazzles opposition

By Marcus Binney

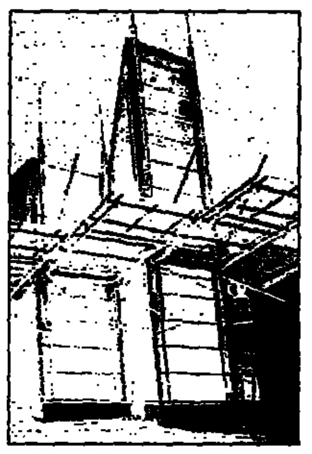
NOT since Oxo glazed its name in coloured lights over the Thames in 1928 has London seen such a brazen piece of advertising on a new building. The front of Sainsbury's new store in Clapham High Street, south London, is faced with a video wall 17.5 metres wide which will pulse out the supermarket's message 18 hours a day.

While Oxo had to pretend to the planners that its landmark tower was no more than two noughts and a cross, Sainsbury's has full approval from Lambeth council.

The store stands on the sixth busiest route out of London, with 20,000 cars passing daily. "It's bound to cause a few accidents," a passing policeman said. Brian Collins, a London taxi driver, said: "You see it, take your eyes off the road, and before you know it, you've gone into the car in front." However, Richard Newman of the local tenants association said: "We welcome it. The new store will brighten the whole place up. The high street's badly run-down."

The pointed roof of the building stands out from a distance like a glass wigwam. It is as if the store had been transported bodily from Tokyo's brilliantly lit entertainment district; dark and gleaming one moment, dazzling with colour and light the next.

Walls tilt and the whole building looks as if every part is designed to move. The canopy has the bull-nosed metal edge of an aircraft wing. Sainsbury's says that the video wall is the largest of its kind in Europe. The 20 screens can be programmed to project anything from a single still image, like a traditional hoarding, to a series of synchronised fast-moving images. Only sound will be missing. Lambeth planners have decreed the wall must stay silent.


The wigwam-style top above tilted glass walls

Jane Blower of Sainsbury's said: "From now until Christmas we will be advertising Sainsbury produce, with a sprinkling of our best TV ads. Then we'll start to sell space to anyone except a direct competitor. Heinz Baked Beans, British Rail — if the demand is there the screen will run 24 hours a day."

The building, designed by Laurie Chetwood, represents a potential sea change for Britain's high streets. Planners have long resisted the rampaging commercialism of American and Japan, where whole buildings can be covered with giant illuminated hoardings and outsized corporate logos. The Clapham Sainsbury's is slick rather than vulgar and forms a spectacular contrast to its typical south London neighbours, a neo-Georgian bank, a former Edwardian variety theatre, a mock-Tudor pub and rows of gabled redbrick houses.

David Sainsbury, the company chairman, said: "We do not have a set house style but give each project team the opportunity to create a unique solution in terms of design and choice of materials."

The most recent Sainsbury's could be designed for the tropics, all in white metal with extensive glass canopies. Clapham suggests there are more surprises ahead, with pop art and space invader stores brightening up seedy shopping parades.

Pictures are produced by back projection. The video projectors use liquid crystal display panels to create the image with a metal halide lamp as the light source. The screens sit behind a special low reflective glass which has been toughened to prevent damage or vandalism.

Situated just a few feet from the back of the pavement, the screen is likely to bring an already slow-moving road to a complete halt.

Teenagers threw rocks at traffic

Three teenagers who threw rocks at motorway traffic were sentenced to 18 months' detention. The boy, 15, and two girls, 14 and 16, hid behind bushes beside the M4 at Thornhill, Cardiff, and pelted five cars and a lorry.

Windscreens on two cars were shattered and one driver was injured. It was lucky no one was killed, Cardiff Crown Court was told. The three, who pleaded guilty, came from a children's home.

Baby TB alert

Up to 167 babies are having tuberculosis tests after a doctor infected with the disease worked in the maternity units at George Eliot Hospital in Nuneaton, Warwickshire, and Hexham General near Newcastle upon Tyne.

Animal cruelty

The owner of a tamarin monkey that died of starvation and hypothermia was fined £1,000 by Enfield magistrates. Nevis de Souza, 48, from New Southgate, north London, admitted causing unnecessary suffering.

Low blow

Dorothy Inman, 52, of Bradford, was robbed of her handbag as she lay semi-conscious on the pavement after being knocked down by a hoarding that was blown over by gales on Wednesday. She is still in hospital.

Beggar's £1 win

A beggar on legal aid won £1 in damages after suing police for wrongful arrest. Cambridge County Court found that Michael Walker, of Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex, had been wrongly detained after shouting in a library.

Brussels challenges legality of flooding Welsh bird haven

By Nick Nuttall

THE completion of the Cardiff Bay barrage scheme is in doubt after a decision by the European Commission to reconsider its legality.

Lawyers for the commission have agreed with environmental groups and opposition MPs that building the barrage within a European reserve for birds might be against EU law.

Yesterday Rohdri Morgan, Labour's Welsh affairs spokesman, urged the Government to suspend work on the scheme pending the outcome.

The commission's move is likely to embarrass minsters by refocusing attention on a £200 million project which, critics claim, is an economic white elephant built for political reasons. The half-finished scheme, which will create a giant leisure lake, is continuing to attract protests from wildlife groups and farmers.

The latest dispute is about the plan to flood up to 1,000 acres in the Gwent levels with sewage water to compensate for the mudflats that will be lost. The National Farmers' Union says that would destroy another protected area and would be unlikely to attract the 4,000 displaced dunlin and redshanks. It could create polluted pools and rob local farmers of their livelihood.

The decision to reopen the case follows complaints by groups including Friends of the Earth, the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust and the World Wide Fund for Nature. The barrage is within the Severn Estuary Special Area for Birds, but the bay and its mudflats have been excluded on socio-economic grounds. This year the European Court of Justice ruled a similar decision in Kent to be illegal.

Mr Morgan said that a Labour government would review the scheme. "The barrage has always been a cosmetic project intended to tickle the fancy of property developers on a speculative basis."

The Welsh Office refused to comment on the commission's action.

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Tale of sex and mutilation awaits verdict from censors

Director defends 'perverted' film

By Dalya Alberge
Arts Correspondent

James Spader and Holly Hunter in *Crash*

THE director of *Crash*, a film exploring the supposed sadomasochistic attraction of bodies mutilated by car crashes, defended himself yesterday against accusations that the film is depraved and perverted.

Columbia TriStar hopes to release it in Britain in January, but the British Board of Film Censors has had a copy for nearly a month and has yet to reach a decision. The board, which was widely attacked for awarding certificates to *Reservoir Dogs*, *Natural Born Killers* and *Kids*, could refuse a certificate or insist on cuts.

David Cronenberg insisted that his film was neither immoral nor irresponsible. "I don't think somebody is going to see this film, copy it and go and look for car crashes to get off on," he said, after a screening at the London Film Festival. "People fasten their seatbelts for the first time after they've seen this movie."

The film, starring James Spader and Holly Hunter, centres on characters who achieve sexual gratification from their shared enjoyment of car crashes: they are aroused by scars and wounds. Their fantasies lie in re-enacting the fatal accidents of James Dean and Jane Mansfield, and they draw excitement from taking photographs of bruised and blood-spattered victims. One character tattooes his body with a scar that he hopes to receive one day.

Cronenberg said: "It *has* been seen by 700,000 people in France and traffic statistics have remained constant. I don't think it *is* a violent film, unlike something like *Braveheart*." He added: "I would not want the film shown in Britain if it has to be cut, but whether I have the power to do that is a different issue."

The film is based on J. G. Ballard's novel, which was roundly attacked by British and American critics when it was published in 1973. One reviewer said it was "the most repulsive book I've yet to come across", appealing to "those who think quadruple amputees are chic".

Cronenberg, who has also made *The Fly* and *The Dead Zone*, has been attacked for "five-star gore, carnage and dementia" and for a fascination with "ambiguous mutations of the flesh". Yesterday he said he had found Ballard's book "difficult and disturbing". He added: "After one showing of the film, I got a card from someone saying 'A series of sex scenes is not a plot.' I replied: 'Why not?'"

Ballard is one of Britain's most respected novelists, best known for *Empire of the Sun*, the story of his youth in war-torn Shanghai which was filmed by Steven Spielberg, as well as for his science fiction novels. Cronenberg's admirers see him as a visionary, a necessary troublemaker in an age of blandness.

Ballard describes Cronenberg's faithful screening of his book as a "brilliant film, a masterpiece of cinema". That the critics had generally disliked the book said more about the British than anything else. The French, he added, had understood it perfectly.

It had its biggest success in France, where "driving is all about sex and power", he said. "The unconscious marriage between sex, power and violence is something the French understand." He believes the British are too puritanical. "I'm *not* saying car crashes are sexy. A car crash has a concealed *sexual* appeal."

In the foreword to the 1995 edition, he notes: "I have used the car not only as a sexual image, but as a total metaphor for life in today's society. As such, the novel has a political role quite apart from its sexual content, but I would still like to think that *Crash* is the first pornographic novel based on technology."

He dismissed the suggestion that it glorified violence. "There are no cartwheeling cars landing on top of buses in the *Die Hard* mode. It's all over in one second, as they are in real life. There are no terrible mutilations, or gore."

Ballard sees it as a cautionary tale, a warning against the 20th-century obsession with technology. "More people have died in car crashes this century than in the Holocaust," he said, asking why society tolerated "enormously-high fatality figures". He said the book gave a warning to readers to drive more slowly. A copy, he recommended, should be given to anyone passing a driving test.

SIMON WALKER

Film director David Cronenberg in London yesterday for a screening of *Crash*

Hindley complaint over press upheld

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

A COMPLAINT by Myra Hindley about a newspaper report of an alleged friendship with Rosemary West has been upheld by the Press Complaints Commission.

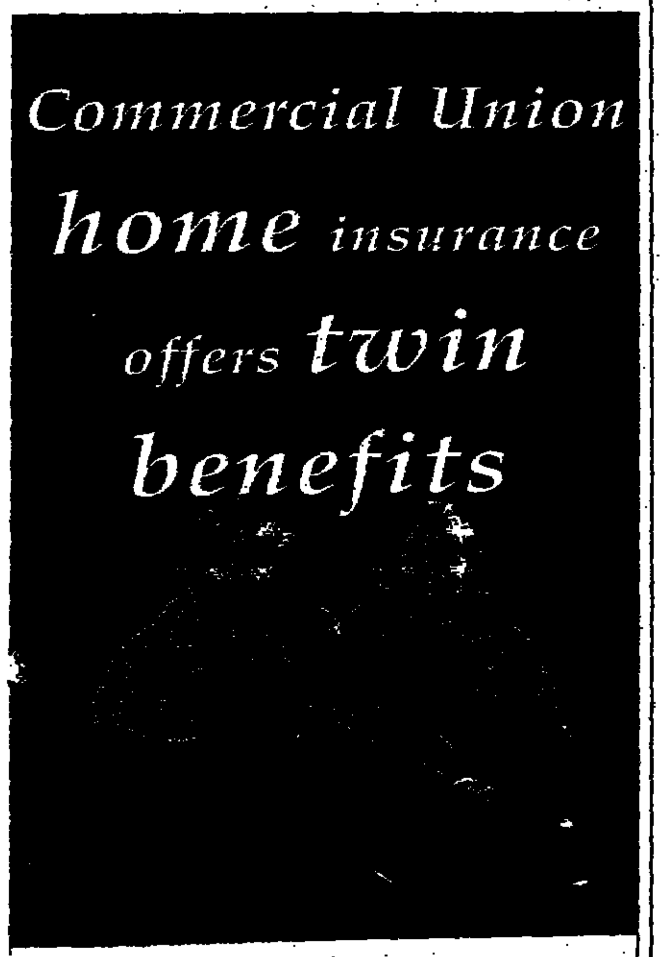
The commission twice found in favour of the Moors murderer's complaint that the story in the *Daily Mail* was inaccurate. It said it had reached a landmark adjudication "reluctantly", because the report had been published in good faith and was based on confidential sources.

However, the commission said last night that it would consider reopening the case after studying new evidence supplied by the newspaper, said to support its original story that Hindley and West, who was convicted of the Cromwell Street murders, had been seen holding hands in Durham Prison. The new evidence was from West's son, Stephen.

It is understood that part of Hindley's complaint to the commission was that she could not have met West at the time because Hindley was in the hospital wing of Durham jail with her leg in plaster and West was held in another wing.

The article, published last November, appeared under the headline "Hand in hand with Hindley". A spokesman for the newspaper said that the case had been based on four "highly reputable but necessarily confidential sources".

Hindley's solicitor, Michael Fisher, said: "It is important that the press are pulled up short when they publish inaccurate stories about her." The adjudication is due to be published in January.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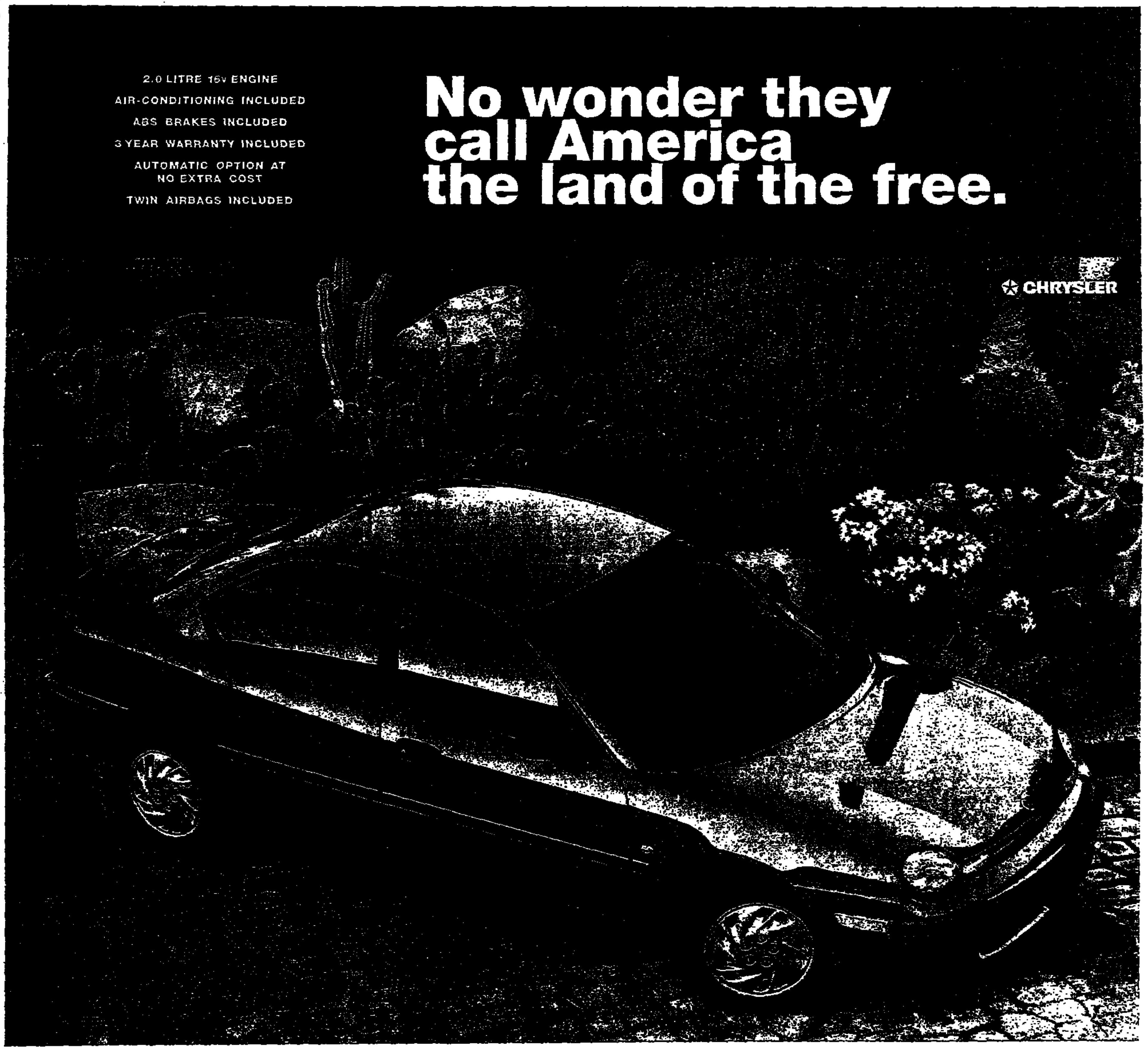
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Single-parent children miss guidance in war and peace alike

Let us remember the fatherless as well as the fallen

Credo

Nigel McCulloch

I never knew my father. The pilot of a Lancaster bomber, he was shot down in flames returning from a raid on Oberhausen in June 1943. I was not quite 18 months old. Even now I sometimes search my memory to see if, hidden deep in the recesses of my mind, there is some faint recall of him. But there is none.

It helps that there are tangible memorials. Indeed, one early memory I do have is, when I was four, laying the *poppy* wreath on Remembrance Sunday at the church war *memorial* newly bearing his name. There was not a dry *eye in the place. I remember* being puzzled by that. Since I *was a teenager* I *have never* missed watching the Royal British Legion's Festival of Remembrance.

Bishop of Wakefield: he cannot recall his father

Then there is my father's grave. Unlike some whose bodies were never recovered, my father's remains were buried in Eindhoven. For years his grave was adopted and lovingly cared for by a Dutch family: and now, as I have seen, it is equally well *looked after by the Commonwealth* War Graves Commiss*ion.*

In my more rational moments I find it surprising that this way of focusing memory is so important to me. Archbishop William Temple was said to have found it difficult to visit his parents' grave because such attention to earthly remains did not equate easily with Christian belief in the final resurrection of the body.

Over the years my attitudes to being fatherless have changed. At school most of my contemporaries had both parents alive and at home. The obvious difference between us was that they had more of this world's goods — *and, at the* time, that was what I noticed *most.*

My first feelings of anger *came when I was a student in* the 1960s. I was angry and *hurt by the movement, not* least among avant-garde clergy, *to alter the nature of* remembrance of the fallen. In *the fashion of that decade, it* was perceived to be irrelevant and an *excuse for unhealthy* jingoism.

This was deeply insensitive not only to the fallen and those who had survived, many of them still bearing mental or physical wounds. It was also unkind to those loved ones whom the fallen had left behind — some to live their life alone without the one they would have married: others deprived of a spouse, a parent, or children.

The nation, in its acts of remembrance, has seemed sometimes to forget the sacrifice paid by those left behind. Bearing in mind our significant Judaeo-Christian tradition, with its emphasis on caring for the fatherless and widows, that seems a strange and poignant omiss*ion.*

In the 1990s, however, what *concerns me far more than my* personal loss is the fact that *my generation has been* succeeded by a society with a *different type of single-parent* family — which often means that children are robbed of the love and guidance of a father for very different reasons from mine. If my own experience is anything to go by, those who are fatherless *may* find it especially difficult to *understand some key* religious ideas and language.

I remember, even when I was reading theology, being *quite unmoved by the excitement* of a lecturer on Gala*tians explaining how the* Greek word *Abba* means Daddy — and how that can transform our understanding of God. As I had never had anyone whom I could ever call Daddy, I found this difficult to relate to.

Thankfully, now I have children *who* call me Daddy, I can understand the point. *Perhaps I am beginning to* realise how much I have *missed by not having a father* to help to bring me up — and *what damage that could have* done (and to a certain extent did do) both to my emotional security and my religious understanding. This weekend I shall, as always at this time of year, remember his sacrifice and that of countless others. But I shall also re*member those* living who, for whatever reason, have not *known the love and guidance* of a father.

☐ *Nigel McCulloch is Bishop of Wakefield and author of* Barriers to Belief *(Darton, Longman and Todd).*

ASADOUR GUZELIAN

Nigel McCulloch in 1942 with his father, who was shot down in June 1943

POETRY AND REMEMBRANCE

Debt of thanks

The war dead are nearly always looked upon as heroes, whether their sacrifice has been worthwhile or in vain. This tradition is at least as old as the 4th century BC, when Simonides praised the 300 Spartans who died defending the pass at Thermopylae. Emily Dickinson, 22 centuries later, expressed much the same sentiment after the American Civil War:

It feels a shame to be — Alive
When men — so brave — are dead

Tomorrow, in many churches, the famous words of Laurence Binyon will be recited:

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them

It is important for both individuals and the nation to cherish and respect the memory of the dead. Every village in France has a well-tended memorial listing the names of the villagers who died in the two World Wars. Britain still observes Remembrace Sunday, with the monarch paying homage at the Cenotaph in Whitehall, on behalf of her subjects. Ceremonies of remembrance may be public and religious, or private and agnostic. What is never forgotten is the debt owed to those who laid down their lives for their country.

The poem I have chosen, *Hymn to the Fallen*, comes from a medieval war fought in China. The sentiment is the same.

KENNETH BAKER

ANONYMOUS

Hymn to the Fallen

'We hold our flat shields, we wear our jerkins of hide:
The axles of our chariots touch, our short swords meet.
Standards darken the sun, the foe roll on like clouds:
Arrows fall thick, the warriors press forward.
They have overrun our ranks, they have crossed our line:
The trace-horse on the left is dead, the one on the right is wounded.
The fallen horses block our wheels, our chariot is held fast:
We grasp our jade drum-sticks, we beat the rolling drums.'

Heaven decrees their fall, the dread Powers are angry:
The warriors are all dead, they lie in the open fields.
They set out, but shall not enter; they went but shall not come back.
The plains are empty and wide, the way home is long.
Their tall swords are at their waist, their bows are under their arm;
Though their heads were severed their spirit could not be subdued.
They that fought so well - in death are warriors still:
Stubborn and steadfast to the end, they could not be dishonoured.
Their bodies perished in the fight; but the magic of their souls is strong -
Captains among the ghosts, heroes among the Dead.

Translated from the Chinese by Arthur Waley

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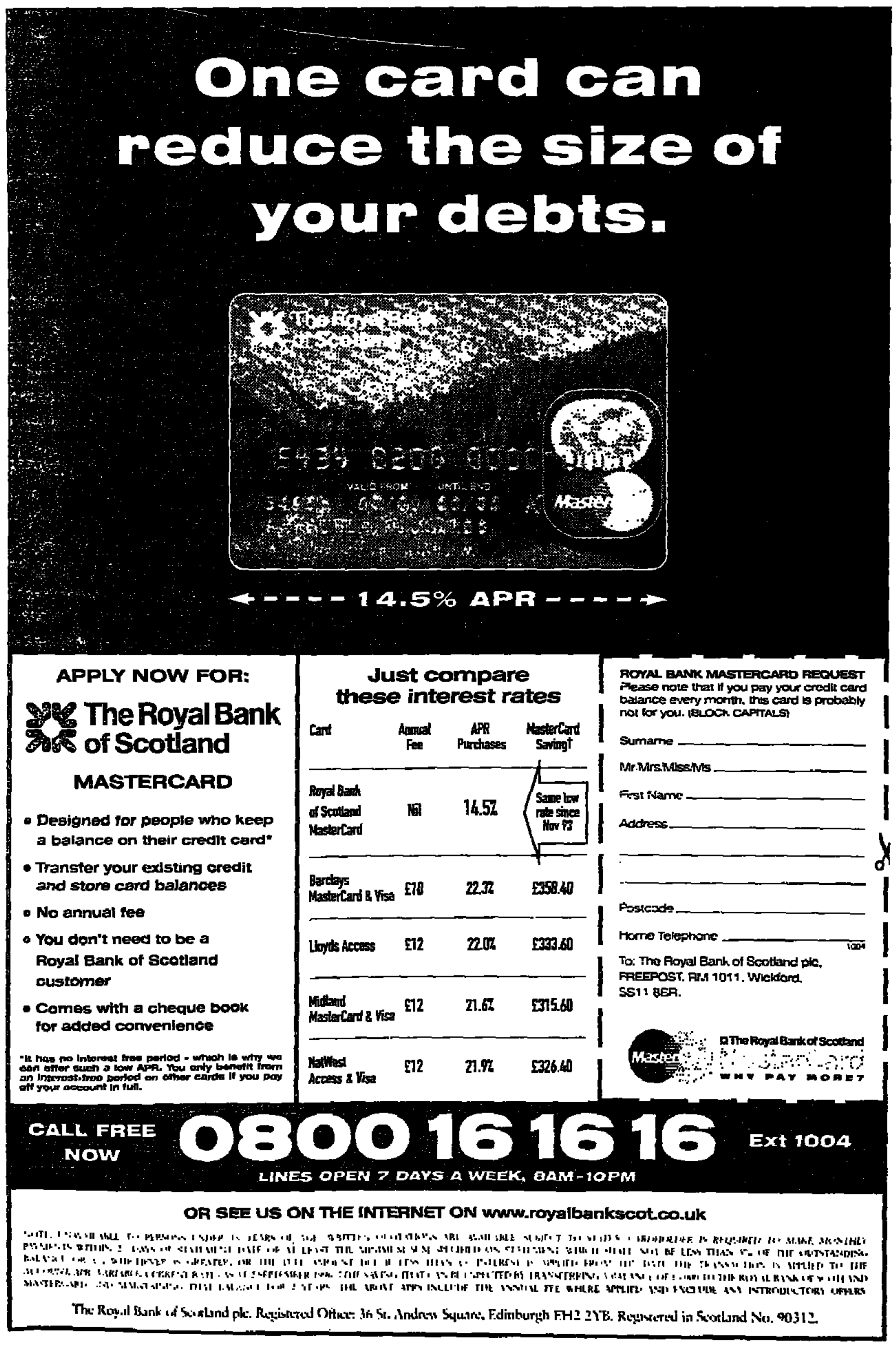

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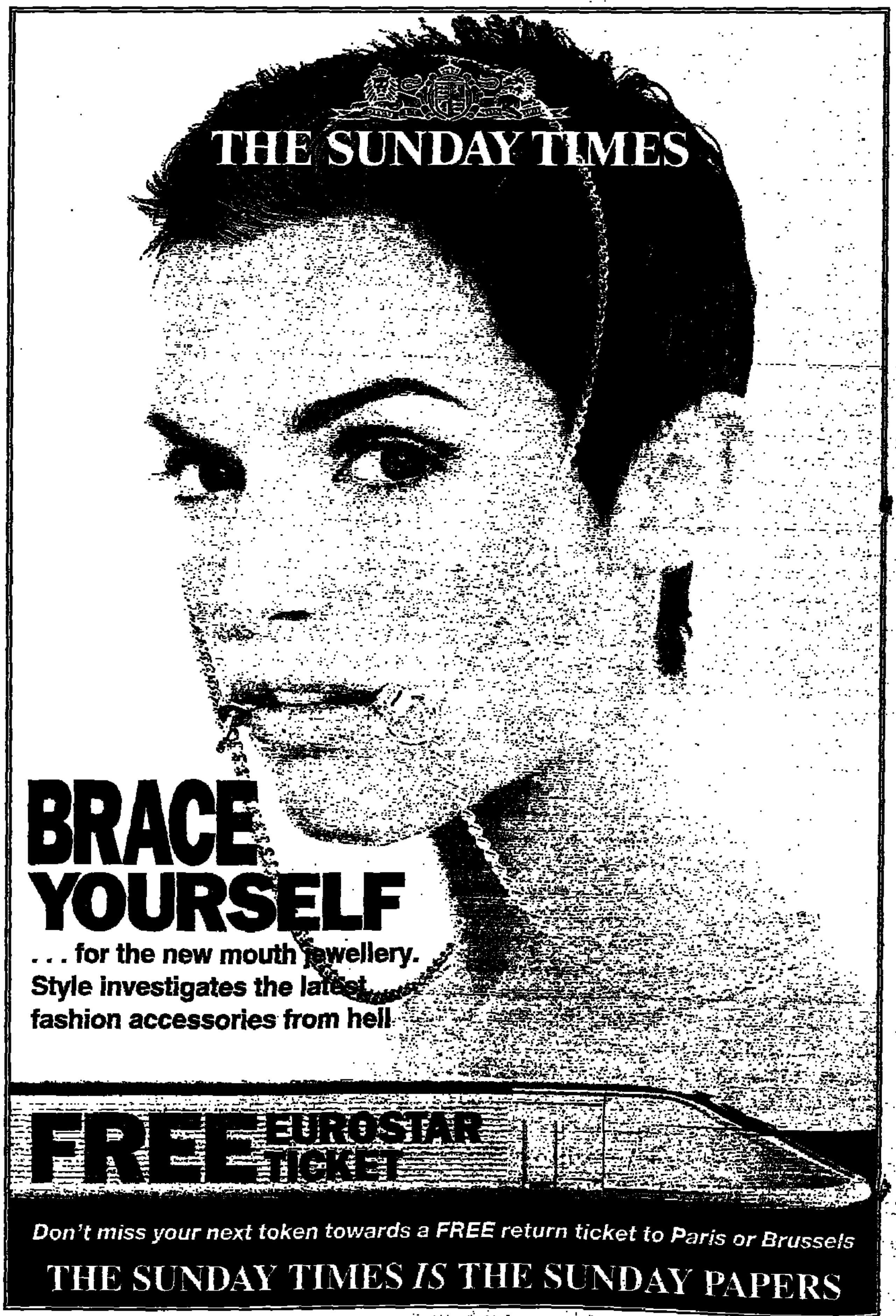

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صكنا من الاجل

From Downing Street to village green, pledges are given to pause and reflect on fallen warriors

Two minutes of silence speak for whole nation

By Russell Jenkins

The Royal British Legion seeks to renew the widespread observance once given to Armistice Day and Remembrance Day, as in this London ceremony in 1950

CITIES, towns and villages across Britain are giving wholehearted support to the call for two minutes' silence on Monday to remember the nation's war dead. Many will herald the moment at 11am by firing maroon rockets and ringing church bells.

The Royal British Legion has been overwhelmed with promises of support for its appeal to mark the moment when the guns stopped at the end of the First World War at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

Much of normal life will halt as schools, local authorities, businesses, shops, passengers and staff on buses, trains and aircraft remember the sacrifice of those who fell in two world wars and the 12,000 servicemen and women killed since 1945.

John Major said yesterday: "With many others, I shall be pausing for two minutes to remember and to resolve anew that the sacrifice of those who gave their lives shall not be in vain." Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, has instructed commanders stationed around the world to arrange for military bases to observe the silence.

Tony Blair has also supported the call to revive the traditional observance, which began in 1918 with the firing of maroon distress flares. Ian Townsend, the legion's secretary-general, said the aim was to restore a tradition last formally practised in 1939. "Many of the older generation speak with emotion of the ways in which, before the Second World War, the whole country came to a standstill at 11 o'clock, whatever day of the week. It seems to me that if we truly believe in the message of remembrance, then that is what we must aim for."

Staff and customers of Marks & Spencer, Sainsbury's and Asda will be among those of the big stores who will be asked to observe the silence. Many of the biggest employers, including Guinness, Tarmac, PowerGen, Cadbury Schweppes, British Airways and Glaxo Wellcome have entered into the spirit of the revival. Among those who have failed to respond to the call are Safeway, Boots, John Lewis and Hanson. The legion did not contact foreign-owned groups such as Rover, owned by BMW, or the Japanese car group Nissan.

The legion says that the response from local authorities has been so overwhelming that there has been a run on maroon rockets. In Dover, the castle guns will be fired and other authorities will be laying wreaths.

Head teachers have been told by Charles Lewis, the legion's controller of communications, that "it is the duty of all of us to bring it to the notice of the younger and future generations". The first of many schools to pledge support was Britain's largest comprehensive, the 1,860-pupil Kenton School in Newcastle upon Tyne. Doug McAvoy, the NUT general secretary, said: "Our children are the beneficiaries of the sacrifices made by servicemen and women. I am very pleased that they wish to commemorate that sacrifice by their support for the two minutes' silence."

Mr Townsend said: "There has only been one year since 1945 when no British serviceman or woman has been killed. It is extremely gratifying that so many schools will be recognising the sacrifice of the more than 12,000 service people, either killed or injured on active service and peacekeeping duties."

Professional footballers will interrupt their practice sessions. Manchester, Sunderland and Liverpool have each promised to observe the silence. The BBC will break into normal programmes on BBC1 with a silent montage of photographs and specially shot film. On Radio 2 a minute's silence will be folowed by a recital of Laurence Binyon's poem *For The Fallen*. ITN and Sky will begin their 11am bulletins late.

The legion which says that a poll organised by Teletext showed 94 per cent in favour of the campaign, are asking mobile telephone companies to urge customers to desist from making calls.

There wil be a memorial service to mark the creation of the National Memorial Arboretum in 159 acres of forest bordering the Trent and the Tame in Staffordshire.

Richard Morrison, page 21
Foreign field, Weekend, page 17
Hitler's bankers, Magazine, page 31

Veterans launch campaign to stop memorial vandals

By Daniel McGrory

WAR veterans will use Remembrance weekend to drum up support for a new campaign to protect the nation's war memorials from vandals and thieves.

Scores of memorials have been desecrated or stolen in recent months and a former Royal Marine is leading the fight to preserve them. Ian Davidson, 61, and fellow volunteers have begun compiling a dossier of theft and vandalism that he describes as "a deplorable shame on our country".

His campaign began after learning that vandals daubed graffiti and chiselled obscenities on the Heroes' Shrine in Aldershot, Hampshire. When he went to investigate he found the garden of remembrance neglected and overgrown.

"There are over 25,000 memorials from the First and Second World Wars alone, and most towns will have one, but we take so little care of them," he said. "This weekend will we bow our heads and remember for a couple of minutes, but the rest of the time we forget what these monuments represent for us and future generations."

Mr Davidson's group, the Friends of War Memorials, wants a national telephone helpline so that the public can report damaged or neglected monuments. He is seeking support from MPs of all parties and is hoping to enlist the Prime Minister's help, as one of the latest attacks has been in his Huntingdon constituency. "Vandals bent the bayonet on the memorial, so where better to begin our clean-up?"

Monuments are increasingly prized by thieves who sell them as garden sculpture or melt them down for scrap. Last month thieves stole a 6ft 9in bronze statue of a First World War soldier from Stansted, in Kent. They tied a tow rope around the statue's legs and used a van to pull it from its plinth. Police fear that the statue will be melted down for scrap.

The list of recent thefts includes those of two marble figures and a shield of honour from Halifax, and a stone lion and two bronze angels from sites in Suffolk, but as in so many cases the monuments were not immediately reported missing.

The Huntingdon statue after being repaired

Sir Thomas Ingilby, President of the Council for Prevention of Art Theft, bemoaned the reluctance of many local authorities to spend money on repairing or protecting monuments. "If they can have closed-circuit television watching their shopping precincts, then why not have a camera on the town's memorial?"

The campaign is being supported by the Tory MPs Sir Donald Thompson and Lady Olga Maitland, and the comedian and writer Spike Milligan has agreed to be its patron. Mr Donaldson said: "I am hoping to gather a committee of prominent people, from generals to MPs and all those interested in protecting our heritage, to realise what we are losing."

Countess Mountbatten of Burma said: "It is very sad to see all the neglect and vandalism so I am delighted to know that at last something is being done. If the public realised how much damage has been done I am sure they would give their full support and I know my late father would have been the first to work for their restoration."

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Jury may throw out first war crime trial

By Bill Frost

A JURY may be asked to decide whether an 85-year-old widower facing prosecution in Britain's first war crimes trial is fit to plead when he appears at the Old Bailey in January.

Mr Justice Potts ruled yesterday that two preliminary hearings should be held before any full trial of Szymon Serafinowicz. The first, when defence lawyers are expected to urge that the case be dismissed under an abuse of process argument, is set for December 17 or 18. Depending on the outcome, the issue of his fitness to plead is due to be decided by a jury on January 7, when medical evidence is to be given.

The retired carpenter from Banstead, Surrey, faces three charges of murdering three unidentified Jews between November 1941 and March 1942 in Belarus, then occupied by German forces.

I was Oskar Schindler of Uganda, says new bishop

By Chris Porter

THE first African consecrated as an English bishop has admitted sending innocent people to jail while working as a magistrate under Idi Amin. John Sentamu, the newly appointed Anglican Bishop of Stepney, said it was a ploy to save the accused from summary execution if they were freed.

He compared himself with Oskar Schindler, who saved the lives of hundreds of Jews while posing as a friend of the Nazis. Dr Sentamu recalled sending ten innocent people to prison as a young law official during Amin's reign of terror in Uganda. His own life was saved when he was allowed to leave the country to read theology at Cambridge. "I got out in 1974," Dr Sentamu said. "If I had not done so, I would have been dead meat."

Dr Sentamu spoke for the first time about the excruciating moral dilemmas he faced as a magistrate posted to Gulu in northwestern Uganda, where Amin's men victimised local people, who were from the same tribe as Milton Obote, the previous President.

Amin: he regarded Dr Sentamu as an agitator

Dr Sentamu knows that the ten he jailed on remand were later freed and are now safe, living in various countries. Had he released them immediately, knowing the evidence against them was insufficient to justify a trial, he is certain they would be dead.

During his last nine months before leaving Uganda, he had felt constantly under threat from Amin, who had stationed an armoured personnel carrier outside his house to prevent him from trying to escape the country.

Many of the cases that came before him were based on locally motivated, trumped-up evidence. Dr Sentamu, 47, gave the example of a doctor who was brought before him on a charge of poaching game. "You would not get a doctor doing that. I mean why would he want to do such a thing? You had to work from within and understand the system and its limitations. It wasn't a time for pronouncing, it was a time for rescuing."

Some judges had adopted the view that Amin's every order should be followed, but he knew the situation was flawed. "The thing to do was to save lives, almost like Schindler," he said.

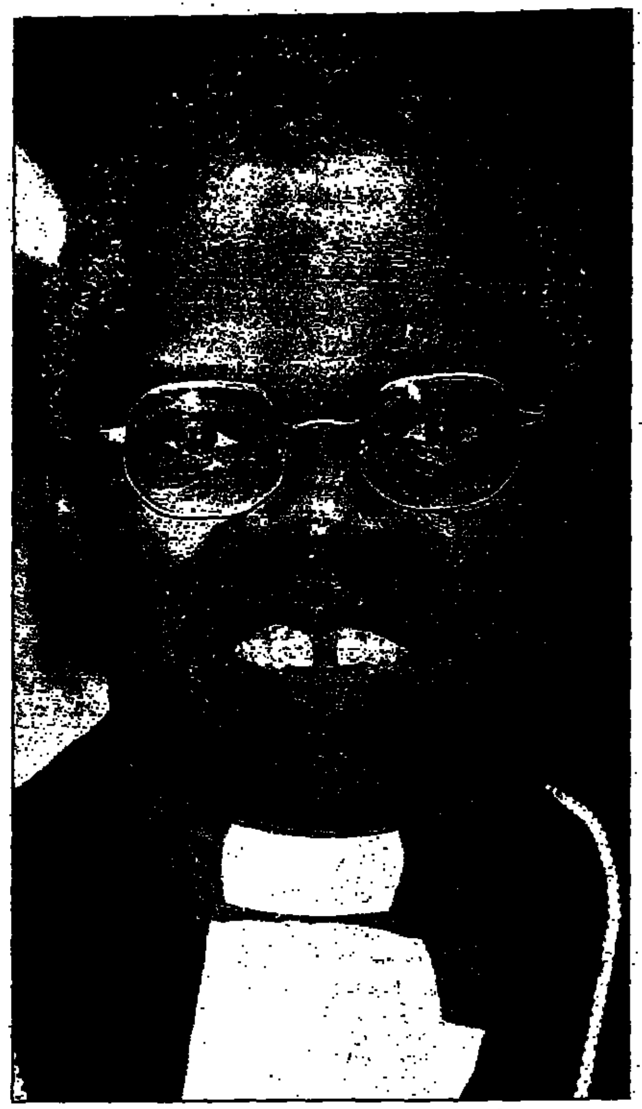
When asked about the ethics of his actions, he said: "My Christian faith told me that it was right. The law as we had it in Uganda, and as in this country, has grown out of the Christian tradition. Justice is often not just innocent or guilty, justice is often doing what is right."

Dr Sentamu was a friend of Chief Justice Benedicto Kiwanuka, thought to have been assasinated at the dicatator's order. His body was rumoured to have been cut up into pieces and thrown into an acid bath in one of Amin's notorious rituals. The case was the worst example of Amin's summary justice he had ever heard of, Dr Sentamu said.

He and his wife left Uganda after the assassination of Archbishop Janani Luwum. He was able to escape only because he had secured a place at Cambridge. He was granted the necessary exit papers on the condition that he return. He never did.

Dr Sentamu said he felt sure that his life was in danger after his dispute with the President over the expulsion of Ugandan Asians. Amin saw him as an agitator and he knew that Amin meant "to finish him off". After he pointed out to the President that he was committing a crime under international law, he convinced him to have all Asian property registered prior to its confiscation.

His 91-year-old father, whom he left behind, came to Britain for his son's consecration. He still lives in his Bugandan home town of Massoli, near Kampala, where Dr Sentamu grew up as one of 13 children.



Dr Sentamu, the new Anglican Bishop of Stepney

Clergy face toughest time ever, says Carey

By A Staff Reporter

CHURCH of England clergy are having a tougher time than ever before, the Archbishop of Canterbury said yesterday. They faced a culture of contempt and deep cynicism, Dr George Carey told a congregation of 600 at Bristol Cathedral.

Dr Carey, a leader of the evangelical tradition, said that the evangelical movement — the Church's fastest-growing wing — must acknowledge "other traditions". His comments came as he delivered a sermon to mark the silver jubilee of the Trinity Theological College, Bristol, of which he was principal for five years to 1987. The congregation, drawn from ten nations, included several bishops and former college pupils.

Dr Carey said a review of the college's history was a journey of faith: "No one can deny that ministry in this country is, in many respects, harder than it ever was ... Keeping the faith faithfully in word and deed will require the church to provide more resources," he said.

Prince keeps his diplomatic cool in carbuncle city

By A Staff Reporter

THE Prince of Wales received a pop star's welcome from thousands of building students in Kazakhstan yesterday. In return, he displayed admirable diplomatic skill when he was shown modern architecture in its capital.

The students at the Kazakh State Academy of Architecture and Construction in Alma Ata waved Union flags, whistled and cheered. Many of the buildings and designs on the tour might normally register in the Prince's mind with words like "monstrous" and "carbuncle". He always managed to find something positive to say, even if it was: "I love the mountains in the background."

Alma Ata, at the foot of the Tien Shan mountains bordering China, bears the unmistakable imprint of the former Soviet Union which controlled the country until the fall of the Iron Curtain. The potentially oil-rich state is the size of Western Europe. The most cosmopolitan of Kazakhstan's cities, Alma Ata is largely a collection of uninspired, run-down blocks of flats or tin-roofed shanty towns in an earthquake zone. Government buildings are on a grand scale. President Nazarbayev, a former Communist boss, is reported to be among the world's richest men and has two palaces.

The Holy Ascension Orthodox Cathedral, constructed largely of solid timber, was the only building which survived an earthquake of 1911. Bells tolled as the Prince and his entourage approached. Inside, several elderly women were waiting to see him.

The Prince, on a nine-day tour of Ukraine and central Asia, was also briefed on an ecological disaster which is draining the Aral Sea, straddling Kazakhstan and neighbouring Uzbekistan to the south. Up to 90 per cent of river water is diverted for irrigation before reaching the Aral Sea, which is drying up. Ships have been left stranded.

In the evening, President Nazarbayev hosted a banquet for the royal guest. A European menu of caviar and pheasant was preferred to traditional Kazakh delicacies which include sheep's eyeballs.

Banquet: the Prince and President Nazarbayev

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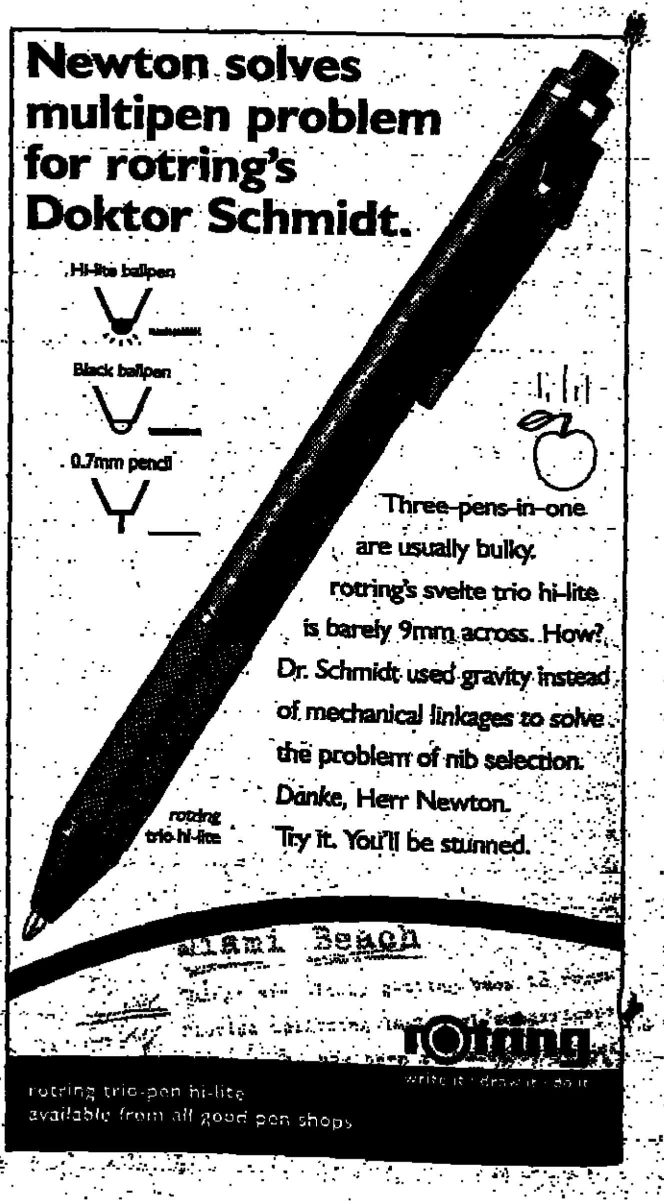

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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9 1996

Hillsdown aims to regain pension cash tax

Sir John: long battle

By Clare Stewart

HILLSDOWN HOLDINGS, the Typhoo Tea to Buxted Chicken food group, is taking legal action against the Inland Revenue to recover £7.4 million of tax paid in 1989 on money it received from the pension fund of a subsidiary.

The move is the latest stage in a long legal battle that has followed Hillsdown's takeover in 1983 of the Fatstock Marketing Corporation.

When it bought the meat processing business, the pension fund assets were in line with liabilities. By 1988 the corporation fund surplus had risen to £18.4 million.

In spite of restrictions that prevented transfer of the surplus to the company, Hillsdown was able to sidestep the rules.

It persuaded the fund trustees to transfer the members of the scheme and the assets to its own pension scheme where there were no restrictions preventing money being transfered to the company.

As a result Hillsdown, which is headed by Sir John Nott, a former Defence Secretary, received £11.1 million and had to pay tax of £7.4 million.

When the transfer came to light two Fatstock Marketing Corporation pensioners took their case to Julian Farrand, the Pensions Ombudsman.

He ruled that Hillsdown had breached its duty of good care in removing the money from the pension fund members.

Hillsdown appealed, but the Ombudsman's decision was upheld by a High Court ruling in July by Mr Justice Knox that Hillsdown was "unjustly enriched" by its actions.

As part of the process of repaying the pensioners of the Fatstock Marketing Corporation the full £18.4 million, Hillsdown is now seeking to recover £7.4 million of tax paid together with interest accrued since 1989.

It has repaid £11.1 million to the fund.

A spokesman for Hillsdown confirmed that a writ has been issued although not yet served against the Inland Revenue.

Hillsdown has a period of up to four months from the issue date of November 6 in which to serve the writ if the legal action is to proceed.

The Inland Revenue made no comment on the writ or any proposed response.

Ofgas bows to pressure and limits bill cuts

By Christine Buckley, Industrial correspondent

GAS BILLS are set to fall by an average £7 next year after the regulator yielded to arguments from British Gas over competition costs and scaled down early plans for price curbs on supplies.

Initial pricing controls would have delivered a cut of £8 on household bills. The regulator has backed down both on a one-off hit across British Gas's range of tariffs, which would have delivered the £8 benefit in 1997, and on a running control on prices thereafter.

The climbdown on both the one-off hit and the inflation-linked pricing formula comes after significant concessions from Clare Spottiswoode, Director-General of Gas Supply, on curbs for TransCo, British Gas's pipelines division. Then, after complaints from institutional investors, she offered final price caps at the lower end of initial proposals and gave substantial ground on the valuation of TransCo's assets, in spite of admitting that she felt uncomfortable about the revaluation.

In spite of the concessions, British Gas resisted the TransCo proposals and forced a Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry into the curbs, which is under way.

Yesterday's fresh concessions to the company involves a modification of the RPI-X curb from -5 to -4, which is the current level of control exerted on British Gas's domestic tariffs. Although the new curbs, revised from initial plans set out in the summer, are still only proposals and British Gas has a month to respond to them, the company is expected to embrace the decision.

Philip Rogerson, deputy chairman of British Gas, said: "When the initial proposals were put forward in June we had a number of serious concerns.

"Although we still believe the proposals are tough, we expect to accept them, as long as they are unchanged, following the statutory consultation period."

A spokesman for Ofgas said the pricing modifications had been made to allow British Gas cash to implement the new competitive gas market, which is being extended from the South West to other regions.

British Gas is steadily facing competition in the supply of household gas as areas of the country are opened up to rival companies. So far only 500,000 households in the South West can shop around for their gas, but early next year the opening up of the market will extend to other parts of the South and South East and will involve two million homes.

British Gas has complained that the speed of competition evolution has placed strain on its network. A new national billing system it has introduced over the past few months has caused havoc by sending out thousands of red reminders before bills and warning good-paying customers of disconnection.

Ms Spottiswoode said: "While British Gas still supplies most domestic customers with their gas, the new control will offer all customers a regulated tariff which will ensure their bills go down by an average of 4 per cent a year on top of the initial cut of £7. We have also given British Gas the freedom to bring in additional tariffs."

The pricing controls run for three years, after which it is not expected that domestic prices will be regulated because British Gas will then face full competition from rivals across the country and will therefore be under market pressure to offer competitive prices.

In addition to the price caps, British Gas will have to lift its minimum compensation payment from £10 to £11.

BUSINESS TODAY

FTSE 100	3910.8	(+10.4)
Yield	4.03%	
FTSE All share	1929.51	(+3.72)
Nikkei	21201.04	(+429.93)
New York:		
Dow Jones	6197.69	(-8.95)*
S&P Composite	727.08	(-0.57)*
Federal Funds	5¼%*	(5¼%)
Long Bond	99 27/32*	(102 11/32)
Yield	6.51%*	(6.55%)
3-mth Interbank	6 1/16%	(6 3/32%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	108 11/32	(108 9/16)
New York:		
$	1.6475*	(1.6480)
London:		
$	1.6447	(1.6467)
DM	2.4788	(2.4829)
FFr	8.3775	(8.3947)
SFr	2.0869	(2.0888)
Yen	183.47	(184.04)
£ Index	90.8	(90.9)
London:		
DM	1.5065*	(1.5127)
FFr	5.0900*	(5.1115)
SFr	1.2658*	(1.2743)
Yen	111.80*	(112.13)
$ Index	96.2	(96.2)
Tokyo close Yen 112.13		
Brent 15-day (Jan)	$22.30	($21.90)
London close	$378.95	($379.45)

* denotes midday trading price

Shares headed in the wrong way for David Morris

CE 'up to 29% of Northern Electric'

By Our Industrial Correspondent

CE ELECTRIC, the American partnership behind a £766 million hostile bid for Northern Electric, yesterday claimed a 29.45 per cent stake in the company and called for Northern's board to admit defeat and recommend its offer.

However, Northern shares fell again, with the market wary of a possible reference of the bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. They fell 18p to 605½p, well below the 630p offer price, letting CE buy shares in the market.

Financial stability will be a big consideration in advice by Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, to the Office of Fair Trading.

City doubts hang on CE's ability to convince him on this because of the junk rating of CalEnergy, the US group leading the bid.

David Morris, chairman of the UK utility, said: "Northern Electric is naturally disappointed that speculation concerning a possible reference to the MMC of CE Electric's offer has depressed Northern Electric's share price."

David Sokol, CE chairman, said: "The market has analysed Northern Electric's value and clearly concluded that in the absence of other offers, substantial downside exists."

Keeping lights on, page 31

Maxwell pension debts settled

THE final settlement in the five-year battle to reclaim the £400 million of assets removed from the Maxwell pension funds took place yesterday when £9 million of shares in Euris, a French investment trust, were handed back to the pensioners (Jason Nissé writes).

However, the main beneficiary of the deal is set to be the Government, which is able to cut back its liability to fund a guaranteed minimum pension to former employees of the late Robert Maxwell's empire.

Banque Nationale de Paris, the state-owned French bank, took the Euris shares as collateral for a loan made shortly before Robert Maxwell's death in November 1991.

The shares were owned by the pension fund, but BNP said that it took them in good faith as they had been transferred to Headington Investments, a Maxwell company.

Lloyd's chief makes pledge to names

By Keith Rodgers

RON SANDLER, chief executive of Lloyd's of London, hit back after continuing complaints over the payment of insurance profits yesterday with a pledge to settle the "overwhelming majority" of cases by the end of the month.

Payment of the £570 million 1993 profit, the last reported year under the Lloyd's accounting system, has been held up by the market's £3.2 billion rescue deal and US regulatory issues. Some of the 11,600 names entitled to payment have criticised Lloyd's over the payments, which are usually distributed mid-year. Mr Sandler insisted that most would receive their surpluses within the timetable laid out in the Settlement Offer Document, which allows three months from when the offer went unconditional on September 4. He suggested that few of those who were anxious about payment understood the complexity of the process, and few "have read the documentation to the adequate level of detail".

Lloyd's is writing to members and agents this weekend to spell out its payment plans. It said 4,000 cheques have been sent out in the past week; these are likely to be in partial settlement. The problem has centred on the fact that a proportion of most names' profits come from US dollar accounts, which are subject to regulatory approval by the New York Insurance Department. Ernst & Young is auditing names' accounts and expects to finish in two weeks. At that point, according to Lloyd's, the NYID will release the funds.

Settlement of sterling accounts has already begun. However, some payments will be further delayed by separate problems in the insurance market, such as the collapse of two Personal Stop Loss underwriters.

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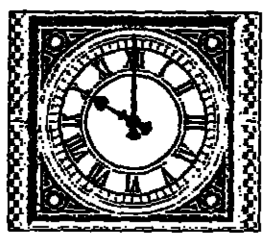

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Financier used daughter's name

By Robert Miller

THE senior executive of a corporate finance firm who applied for shares in a placing in the name of his daughter has been fined £17,500 by a City watchdog.

The Serious Fraud Office was called in to investigate after International Food Machinery (IFM), which came to the stock market in 1992 with a price tag of £7 million, failed.

The Securities and Futures Authority, the watchdog for brokers and futures dealers, announced yesterday that John Searson, the senior executive officer of Brook Corporate Finance (BCF), based in Birmingham, was also required to pay costs of £4,300 and he had resigned from the regulator's register of directors. In March 1994, BCF was appointed as broker and financial adviser to a share placing.

By July 6, 1994 BCF had obtained commitments for the placing of £500,000 of shares, £700,000 less than the amount required to meet the minimum placing. Mr Searson responded to a suggestion that BCF should underwrite part of the shortfall and agreed to do so in respect of £400,000 with the chairman of the client company (IFM) underwriting the balance through a family trust.

Mr Searson then forwarded applications for shares in his daughter's name and in the name of the chairman's family trust. As agent for IFM, Mr Searson instructed the registrar not to cash the cheques accompanying the two applications without specific instructions to do so. As a result, the placing remained open.

The SFA said: "The failure to comply with the terms of the prospectus gave the misleading impression that the placing had succeeded in meeting the minimum subscription and that all shares had been paid in full."

Mr Searson, who remains registered as a representative of BCF, admitted to the watchdog that he "failed to observe the high standards of integrity and fair dealing" required under City rules.

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Time to preserve the family silver — and fossil fuels

EXECUTIVE VOICE

Mark Baker

As Reggie Perrin's blimpish brother-in-law, Jimmy, might have put it. "Tricky chap. Time". For once, he'd have been right. The concept of time gives me trouble. The future has always seemed distant and impenetrable, but as I grow older the past, if anything, becomes closer. I think that is because the past is more and more crowded with memories and is waymarked territory. In contrast the future is unmapped and unimaginable. Three hundred years ago Wren was building St Paul's Cathedral — instantly recognisable as part of the fabric of the lives of those who work in the City. We can visualise London during Wren's reconstruction easily enough: can anybody imagine what sort of a world St Paul's will occupy in 300 years' time?

Why does this asymmetry between the past and the future matter? I believe we in the developed world are wilfully neglecting the interests of our descendants, like the spoilt sons of rich families in the 18th century blowing away their inheritance in an evening's gambling at the Hellfire Club.

Economists have always recognised that there is a problem about our view of the future — Pigou called it "man's defective telescopic faculty" — and introduced discounted cashflow analysis to reflect both uncertainty and the expectation that money can grow yearly. But the rate of return we expect on our money has risen. Where are the Forsyte family's 3 per cent Consols now? Trading at a heavy discount. Moreover, the pace of technical, industrial and social change has been so rapid that the future, both conceptually and economically, seems more uncertain.

So today's "quick win" is valued much more highly than the greater potential benefit of tomorrow. And like other businessmen I am bound to conform to the practice of the day and look for a fast "pay-back" so as to optimise my company's investment decisions and maximise shareholder value.

But as a citizen — of the nation and of the world — I am convinced that current trends are unsustainable. Without resurrecting the unduly doom-laden Club of Rome predictions of the 1970s that resources were rapidly running out, and making full allowance for man's adaptability, it seems to me clear that the rate of growth in the developed world's economic activity — and the choices which it continues to make — are spendthrift in terms of man's long-term occupancy of this planet.

Energy is a prime example. In Europe we actually throw away more than 90 per cent of the potential energy in our fossil fuel, and the North Americans are even more wasteful.

What are we and the other developed nations really doing to the world and its future occupants? Until the 19th century, man had barely scratched the surface — literally — of the coal, gas and oil reserves laid down over hundreds of millions of years. Since then there has been a remorseless upward progression of primary energy consumption from an annual 50 million tonnes of coal equivalent in 1800, to more than 12 billion tonnes today. The fuel we now burn every year took two million years to form.

New hydrocarbon reserves continue to be discovered and there are still many decades of resources left. But these reserves are finite and precious, and what might better be used at the end of the next century for making recyclable plastics, pharmaceuticals, and perhaps other as-yet-uninvented materials, is currently going up in smoke — or, worse, in carbon dioxide and other pollutants.

For even if the fossil fuel resources were there, what will be the climatic consequences of such a huge increase in greenhouse gas emissions? Any comfort taken in weatherman Bill Giles's plan for olive groves in the Midlands must be weighed against the prospect of terminal famine across vast tracts of land in the world's near desert regions.

As governments look beyond the Rio commitment to hold global carbon dioxide emissions in check and contemplate the need to cut them back, the spectre of a clean energy deficit in the next century looms large. You would expect me, as Chairman of Magnox Electric, a nuclear generator, to say that safe nuclear energy — which contributes neither to climate change or acid rain — is the answer. Indeed, I believe that nuclear power must and will make a vital contribution to sustainable world energy in the next century. Other clean technologies will also help, but they too are only part of the answer. Renewable energy is another part, and restraint by the world's "haves" is overdue.

The developing world is watching our consumption of resources with understandable envy and is bound to emulate it. More than half the world has no domestic electricity supply. If every inhabitant of China switched on one extra light bulb (I am writing this in an office where six are on in the middle of the day) they would create a demand requiring the immediate construction of broadly another 60 gigawatts of generating plant — probably coal-fired and the equivalent of 30 Didcot A power stations.

In fact energy consumption in China (which already accounts for a quarter of the world's coal burn) is forecast to increase 85 per cent over the next 25 years. And they are on course. The Chinese economy has grown at 10 per cent per annum for the past ten years. Their industry would have grown faster but for electricity shortages. Even with such growth rates, per capita consumption in the developing world will lag well behind the Western world's. But given the size of the populations involved, the growth in global consumption will be huge. Small wonder that the more pessimistic economists snort when people talk about "sustainable development". A fundamental principle of sustainable development is equity — sharing resources not just between different regions of the globe, but between different generations. Are we prepared to level down?

Meanwhile, the FT-SE 100 continues to flirt with the 4,000 mark, the rich world gets richer, and we in business must continue to pursue profit and growth. How are we to step back from the gaming table and re-establish, on a global scale, the good old-fashioned principle of preserving our family silver — not to mention our fossil fuels?

Mark Baker is Chairman of Magnox Electric.

Jump in Unilever shares takes City by surprise

By Paul Durman

UNILEVER, the food and detergents group, was the strongest performing share in the FT-SE 100 yesterday, leaping more than 5 per cent in value.

The shares rose 71½p to close at £13.46½p, adding £1.4 billion to Unilever's stock market value. Although the company released better than expected third-quarter results, analysts were at a loss to explain the sudden strength of the shares.

Richard Newboult, of Lehman Brothers, said: "I just have people phoning up and saying what the hell is going on?" He said that Goldman Sachs, the American investment bank, had been very keen on Unilever and suggested that American investors might have sustained the shares' early momentum.

Unilever's operating profits, at £918 million, were broadly in line with forecasts, but the £32 million exceptional charge was lower than expected. The charge was largely down to restructuring at Diversey, the recently acquired industrial cleaning business.

Pre-tax profits for the quarter rose 5 per cent to £826 million, on sales 7 per cent ahead at £8.7 billion. This lifted the nine-month profits total to £1.95 billion, a 2 per cent improvement on last year.

Unilever's European sales fell slightly, hit by the poor summer that cut an estimated £50 million from the profits of selling Magnum, Cornetto and other ice-creams.

However, European profits moved to £502 million (£489 million) because of better results from frozen foods, with the company concentrating more on higher-margin meals. Costs in the detergents business also fell.

North American sales were strongly ahead at £1.8 billion, with 7 per cent of the growth from existing businesses, particularly margarine and detergents. However, profits remained static at £173 million because of heavy spending on marketing. This included advertising for 5th Avenue, a new Elizabeth Arden perfume.

Unilever's strongest performance came from Asia and the Pacific, part of the emerging markets that are expected to represent half the group's sales before 2010. Quarterly sales from Asia and the Pacific increased 19 per cent to £1.26 billion, while profits climbed 25 per cent to £108 million. Unilever said that the strongest growth came in China, India, Indonesia and the Philippines. It also did well in Latin America.

Unilever will pay an interim dividend of 10.29p a share, up 46 per cent, on December 20.

Tempus, page 30

Michael Hodges plans to launch a CD-Rom version of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*

Hodges on-line to net £1m

By Fraser Nelson

MICHAEL HODGES, the former computer programmer who is now chairman of On-Line, will become a paper millionaire next month when his company floats on the Alternative Investment Market.

Mr Hodges, 34, will share a £2.56 million stake in the company with Clement Chambers, 33, now On-Line's sales manager. The two founded the company six years ago. It now markets ten games, three of which are accessed via the Internet. In the nine months to September 30, On-Line made a pre-tax profit of £44,600 on sales of £211,000. Next year the company will launch a CD-Rom version of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, the cult film. This is being run as a joint venture with Richard O'Brien, who wrote the script to the film and now runs his own software company.

On-Line has raised £1.2 million from coming to the market, £48,000 of which will be spent on marketing and the rest on developing new games. Grant Thornton is putting 1.2 million of On-Line's shares to open offer at 100p each. They will start trading on December 5.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Regalian makes £17m cash call

REGALIAN PROPERTIES is to raise £17 million through a rights issue to finance developments in the buoyant London residential property market. The group, which is known for its conversion of redundant office blocks into upmarket apartments, is offering one new share for every two held, at 30p. The existing shares fell by 2p, to 35p.

Regalian also reported a recovery in interim profits, to £1.62 million, from £400,000, for the half-year to September 30. Earnings per share rose to 1.39p, from 0.38p, and the company is returning to the dividend list with an interim payment of 0.4p a share. Net assets per share rose to 42.24p, from 41.25p. The sales value of the property portfolio at the half-year was put at more than £200 million. Properties valued at £120 million were marketed during the first six months, and pre-sales of £75 million were achieved. David Goldstone, chairman, said that demand for residential property in London has been boosted by interest from the Far East. Regalian has opened sales offices in Hong Kong and Singapore. At present, about 40 per cent of property sales are to overseas buyers.

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Roxboro warning

SHARES of Roxboro plummeted for the second time in two months when the specialist electronics group gave warning of continuing trading problems. Having opened at 202½p, the shares dived to 123p after the company said there was "no immediate prospect of a meaningful recovery in demand levels" at its Dialight Electronics Product Group, which accounts for about a third of sales. More than £106 million has been wiped off the company's value since September 17; its market capitalisation is now about £69 million.

Tempus, page 30

Senior sale hits snag

SHARES of Senior Engineering dropped 7p to 114½p yesterday after the company said it had hit problems with the sale of its underperforming thermal engineering arm. Senior stood to gain up to £28.2 million from selling the division to Thermal Engineering Corporation. Completion was scheduled for October 31. It was delayed after Senior said the division's profits would be £1 million below forecasts. In the six months to June 30, it made an operating loss of £237,000. The two companies have given themselves until December 20 to agree a new deal.

US rail bid increased

AMERICA'S big rail takeover battle intensified yesterday when Norfolk Southern Corp lifted its hostile bid for Conrail Inc by 10 per cent to about $10 billion, further widening the gap from the $8.5 billion rival friendly offer by CSX Corp. Conrail, a collection of once-bankrupt freight lines in the North East, is being wooed at a time when rail lines are combining in search of efficiencies as well as market dominance. A merger with either CSX or Norfolk Southern would create America's third-largest freight line.

Fruit of the Loom hours

FRUIT OF THE LOOM, the US clothing company, is extending its three-day working week for its 3,000 employees on both sides of the Irish border to March 1997. The company, which is the biggest US employer in the Republic, introduced the shortened week in June after sales of its leisurewear slumped in Europe. Fruit of the Loom has two plants in Derry and five in Donegal. A company spokesman blamed the continuation of the short-time work on softness in the European consumer products markets.

Dresdner in funds revamp

By Robert Miller

DRESDNER, the German banking group that owns Kleinwort Benson, has announced plans to create a new global asset management arm with more than £50 billion of client funds.

The company will bring together the diverse international fund management interests of Dresdner. The group will consist of the £14.7 billion at Kleinwort Benson Investment Management, including its unit and investment trusts, the £1.8 billion looked after by Thornton, and the $26 billion under management of RCM Capital Management, an independent US fund manager.

RCM, of San Francisco, was acquired by Dresdner earlier this year. It will be the lead company in the new organisation, which will have 900 employees worldwide.

Bootle is asked to be 'wise man'

By Alasdair Murray

KENNETH CLARKE, the Chancellor, is inviting Roger Bootle to replace Patrick Minford — the unconventional professor of economics at Liverpool University — on the Treasury's Panel of Independent Economic Advisers.

Professor Minford, whose term expires at the end of the year, has increasingly made forecasts at odds with other members of the panel of "wise people". In the panel's Budget advice last week, he called for £4 billion in tax cuts and a 22p basic rate of tax and opposed further interest rate rises. The rest of the panel called for some fiscal tightening and rate rises to dampen consumer spending.

Mr Bootle, chief economist of HSBC, has called for tax increases in the Budget and opposed the recent rate rise.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.19	2.03
Austria Sch	18.51	17.01
Belgium Fr	54.25	49.95
Canada $	2.296	2.136
Cyprus Cyp£	0.792	0.737
Denmark Kr	10.14	9.34
Finland Mkk	8.08	7.43
France Fr	8.81	8.16
Germany Dm	2.64	2.43
Greece Dr	408	383
Hong Kong $	13.36	12.36
Iceland	115	95
Ireland Pt	1.05	0.97
Israel Shk	5.63	4.98
Italy Lira	2610	2455
Japan Yen	199.00	183.00
Malta	0.627	0.572
Netherlds Gld	2.943	2.713
New Zealand $	2.47	2.25
Norway Kr	11.00	10.20
Portugal Esc	263.00	244.50
S Africa Rd	8.30	7.50
Spain Pta	218.00	203.00
Sweden Kr	11.54	10.74
Switzerland Fr	2.23	2.05
Turkey Lira	168950	160950
USA $	1.745	1.615

Rates for small denomination bank notes as supplied by Barclays Bank. Other rates apply to traveller's cheques. *Rates as at close of trading yesterday.*

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Interim dividend payments of Fl.2.23 per Fl.4 ordinary capital in respect of the year 1996 will be made on or after 20th December 1996 against surrender of Coupon No. 19. Coupons may be encashed through one of the paying agents in the Netherlands or through Midland Securities Services ("Midland") at the address below; in the latter case they must be listed on the special form, obtainable from the Bank, which contains a declaration that the certificates do not belong to a Netherlands resident.

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A statement of the procedure for claiming relief from Dutch dividend tax and for the encashment of coupons, including names of paying agents and convention countries, can be obtained from Midland at the address below.

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8th November 1996.

اصكنا من الاجل

A WORKING WEEK FOR: NICK LESLAU

New-style hotelier seeks room to manoeuvre

Jason Nissé meets an energetic millionaire who finds that wearing two business hats is starting to become a little too much to handle

DES JENSON

Nick Leslau, chief executive of two publicly quoted companies, has found that as his working pace increases, his working space diminishes

THE busier Nick Leslau seems to be, the smaller his office becomes. When he was merely chief executive of Burford, the fast-growing property group, he worked out of a large, airy comfortable room with a sofa for invited guests and, in estate agents' terminology, a well-appointed roof terrace giving good views over the West End of London.

Now he is, according to Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the stockbroker, the only chief executive of two publicly quoted companies — thanks to last year's flotation of Trocadero, the Burford subsidiary that owns the site in central London — as well as non-executive of Grantchester, which is now being spun off from Burford.

On top of that he is becoming an hotelier. Burford has bought the Sanderson Building just off Oxford Street and an office block above the post office at St Martin-in-the-Fields that it is turning into trendy, room-only hotels along the lines of a model that has proved a success in New York.

Accordingly, his office has shrunk to half the size of his old one. However, Leslau hopes to build a conservatory on the balcony outside to give himself some more room — provided Camden council agrees that he needs it.

The new office is casual and welcoming, a fair reflection of Leslau, who rarely wears a tie and closes his door only if the person to whom he is talking wants confidentiality. The room boasts a large desk seemingly made out of corrugated iron and designed by Leslau's American wife, Maxine, who is a sculptress.

> ‘Someone is always more wealthy and that drives you to want more’

Personal touches abound, including a painting of the Beatles by Paul McCartney's brother, Mike, a rugby ball signed by the English double grand slam team, and a collection of Noddy memorabilia (Trocadero owns the marketing rights to Enid Blyton).

"This is all my stuff," Leslau is at pains to point out. "The company did not pay a penny for this. I have a company car, but it's a ten-year-old BMW which is only worth about £3,000. Nigel [Wray, Burford's chairman] does not even have a company car. I'm interested in making serious money, but I'm not turned on by gadgets. You won't find any corporate frills."

Leslau has indeed made serious money. Having dropped out of a course in French, German and economics at Warwick University, he took a degree in property management and was just 22 when he joined Burford, which was then an offshoot of an overseas commodities financing company.

The group moved into property and struck gold with a deal to buy Piccadilly Plaza in central London. In 1986, when Leslau was only 27, the company floated through a reverse takeover of Nigel Wray's company Chartsearch. Leslau netted £4 million from the deal. The combined value of Burford and its subsidiaries now approaches £1 billion. Leslau this week cashed in share options, netting a tidy £5 million profit, and still holds Burford shares worth more than £11 million.

Many people, having been handed a fortune in their mid-20s, might be tempted to live a life of leisure. However, this was never Leslau's route. He says that he is still motivated by money in spite of not spending a fraction of his wealth or earnings and being nagged by his wife to replace his frayed suits and shirts.

"All entrepreneurs are insecure," Leslau admits. "Someone is always more wealthy than you, and that always drives you to want more. For instance, I'm not nearly as wealthy as Nigel."

Wray, a high-flying financier, did not know Leslau when they became partners a decade ago. But since then they have become firm friends and work a fine double act, Leslau playing the sleeves-rolled-up trader and Wray the cerebral businessman.

Their paths had crossed well before they became partners. When Leslau was 17 he ran a grocery shop in Belsize Park, north London, called the Late Late Store, at which Wray shopped.

"I knew him, but he didn't remember me," Leslau recalls with a smile. Recently the tables were turned when, at a City presentation, Leslau was approached by a merchant banker from SBC Warburg. "You might not remember me," the banker said. "But I worked with you for three months at the Late Late Store."

Colleagues describe Leslau as a perpetual motion machine, oozing energy and ideas. During a trip to Japan last year for talks with Sega, a tenant at the Trocadero, Leslau was regularly the last man in the bar in the small hours of the morning and the first up for breakfast.

However, Leslau rejects any suggestion that he is a workaholic. "My average day starts at 7.30am or 7.45am, but I am almost always home to put the kids to bed, which means I get back no later than 7pm. I try not to work at weekends, and if there is anything to do I try and take it home with me. I don't want to be one of those fathers who wakes up one day to find their children are teenagers."

Leslau has no great hobbies, and says he relaxes by wrestling with his boys, who are four-and-a-half and eight. He tends to spend the weekends at his home in Hampstead and the family enjoys walking on Hampstead Heath and socialising with friends. "I'm not into racing cars or football although I go to the occasional rugby match." The recent purchase of Saracens by Nigel Wray has rather decided which team he follows.

At the office, Leslau says the greatest problem is finding time to be with people. He likes to sit down with those he works with over a cup of coffee and discuss what they are doing rather than read memos or talk over the phone.

He tries to avoid business lunches because he thinks they take up too much time. "The best part of the day is early in the morning because once the phone starts ringing it becomes a question of how you prioritise your time."

Leslau finds that the best way is working with a small group of people one trusts. The total staff of Burford now stands at 30, of whom eight are surveyors, including Leslau.

He says that he does not want this to grow any larger because there are diminishing returns to scale from a large office. "I'd rather have good people well paid." He also hates office politics, which he rages against as a distraction to the job in hand, which is making money.

Because of the level of work, Leslau does not get out of the office as much as he would like. For instance, Burford recently bought a shopping centre in Glasgow, but Leslau did not go to see it until it was almost certain that it could be bought at the price Burford wanted to pay.

The company is plagued by surveyors offering it properties to buy, but most get short shrift. "I've learnt to be fairly ruthless with introductions. I have a limited time to consider things and unless I trust the source I tend to pass on the deal. Someone I always listen to is Franco Sidoli at Frank Warwick [the chartered surveyor]. He's as much a part of Burford as anyone. When he brings something I listen."

Since the launch of Sega World, the interactive theme park in the middle of the Trocadero, Leslau's life has become even more busy. He and his team have worked hard to turn the Trocadero from a white elephant that people pass through on their way from Soho to Piccadilly Circus into a viable leisure and shopping complex.

The launch in September of Sega World, which is run and operated by the giant Japanese computer games company, was dogged by equipment failure and massive queues for the best attractions.

And although Leslau has no direct input in the running of Sega World, Trocadero's shares have suffered from the bad publicity and he has been caught up in the process of improving the attraction.

This has convinced him that wearing two hats is starting to become a little too much to handle. "It is reasonable to say that I cannot be the chief executive of the Troc for that much longer," he admits. "We have to bring in someone who is dedicated to the Troc, someone perhaps with some leisure experience."

No doubt when he sheds his second job, Leslau will be able to expand the size of his office.

HIDDEN ASSETS

P&O luxury cruise ship is a veritable treasure island

Passengers can wallow in a floating art collection, says **Joanna Pitman**

Those of us who do not make a habit of spending our hard-earned holidays on luxury cruise liners may not be aware that the best liners these days cannot describe themselves as "luxury" unless they have an art collection to rival the Tate Gallery hanging on their cabin walls.

The provision of fine — and seaworthy — floating collections is now big business, and P&O has been kitting out its liners with some of the best of British works.

P&O's first *Oriana*, which set sail in 1960, was equipped with some fine commissioned works, including paintings by John Piper, Ceri Richards and Graham Sutherland. But the *Oriana* that today floats serenely on the high seas has developed her art heritage several stages further. With the help of Tom Tempest-Radford International Art Consultants, P&O has assembled a collection of paintings, prints, sculpture, ceramics, furniture and friezes expected to grow in status and value over the course of the ship's life.

Tempest-Radford had quite a task in beautifying the ship with works of art: 914 cabins and state rooms as well as 12 public rooms, many of them odd shapes, had to be artfully hung with attractive and appropriate works.

It was required to meet three conditions in its choices. First, they had to flatter the cabins and public spaces where they were to hang — a cruise ship is not the place for disturbing or harrowing images. Secondly, they had to bridge the gap between those passengers with a knowledge of fine art and others with none, but who would nevertheless have their own tastes. And finally, the collection had to be astutely judged to bring some future improvement in value.

Some 122 artists and 2,982 works are represented in the collection, and in many cases the consultancy has chosen the works of British artists whose reputations were just beginning to grow. It also recommended that P&O commission new works from 40 of the artists.

The *Oriana* art collection is solidly framed in cherry and gold-leaved oak that will resist wear and acquire a patina with age. Backings are also specially made to protect the art from damp sea air. There is a wide range of size and media. In the public rooms there are large works such as Rose Warnock's oil — 16.9 metres in length — for the Peninsular Restaurant, and Alice Kettle's embroidered panels in the Curzon Room. At the risk of alienating the ladies, P&O has made cricket a strong theme on board. A mural by Janet Shearer shows a Test match at Lord's, while David Hiscock has produced portraits of Ian Botham, the former England captain, and Brian Lara, the West Indian batsman. Women passengers will, however, be delighted by the *trompe l'oeil* work by Sarah Janson.

As well as the contemporary work, passengers may also notice pictures from a collection normally housed in P&O's London headquarters — 19th-century watercolours and prints of early P&O destinations. Until the 1950s (when stabilisers were fitted and shipping companies began to think of their liners as great hotels) there were only ever two pictures available for viewing on board a luxury cruiser. These were always greyish photographs showing front and back views of an amply covered middle-aged man with a moustache. The pictures were simply framed and screwed to the bulkhead. The Board of Trade required them to be there because they showed passengers how to get into their lifejackets.

Art at sea can only get better. It won't be long before the Turner Prize is judged in the middle of the Pacific.

Fine works framed in cherry and gold-leaved oak are hung in suites on the *Oriana*

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STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Kleinwort Benson gets ready for bear market

KLEINWORT BENSON, one of the City's biggest securities houses, is battening down the hatches in readiness for a major bear market.

The firm has already moved out of equities and up to the maximum permitted levels of cash before share prices in the US, Japan and Europe come under the hammer.

Albert Edwards, global equity strategist at Kleinwort, said: "We are maximum bearish. We are advising clients to take extreme care over the next few months in equities."

He says the cracks are starting to appear in Japan and continental European markets as the dollar starts to lose ground in the wake of President Clinton's victory at the polls earlier this week. But it will be Wall Street where the worst falls are likely to be seen and that will naturally have serious consequences for investors in London.

There were few signs of the storm to come in London yesterday where the FT-SE 100 index ended another difficult week on a firm note supported by a recovery in gilts. But this week's call by the Bank of England for another rise in interest rates to curb inflationary pressures hangs over the market like a cloud.

Further evidence that inflationary pressures are building up was provided by the latest *Industrial Trends Survey* from the CBI. As a result, early gains were more than halved as the index finished 10.4 points up at 3,910.8. It succeeded in reducing the loss on the week to 37.7. A total of 768 million shares changed hands.

Fading hopes of a counterbid left **Northern Electric** 18p cheaper at 605½p. That compares with the all-cash offer of 630p a share being offered by CE Electric, the US power generator. CE has now raised its holding in Northern to 29.4 per cent of the issued share capital with further purchases in the market. Brokers say that Northern faces an uphill fight to preserve its independence.

Meanwhile, institutional investors have been voting with their feet and switching into other companies in the sector. **East Midlands** firmed 1p to 593½p, still waiting to see the terms from the other another American bidder, Dominion Resources. Dominion said that it would not be paying much above 608p a share. The speculators do not rule out the possibility of another bidder emerging. Elsewhere in the sector, there were gains for **Northern Ireland Electricity**, 20p to 357p, **National Grid**, 3½p to 182½p and **ScottishPower**, 2½p to 321½p.

Unilever responded to better than expected third-quarter figures with a rise of 71½p to £13.46½. Pre-tax profits were 5 per cent ahead at £826 million.

Some bullish comments from Robert Fleming, the broker, enabled **British Biotech** claw back much of the fall in the share price that followed an update on testing of Marimastat, its cancer treatment, earlier this week.

Fleming now rates the shares a "strong buy" and says that the City has misinterpreted the findings of the report issued at a conference in Vienna. A further update is expected in three weeks. The shares responded with a rise of 16½p to 230p.

British Steel firmed 4p to 171p ahead of half-year figures on Monday that are expected to show profits down almost 50 per cent. The group also shrugged off news that Avesta, its Swedish associate, had seen its profits in the first six months of the year virtually wiped out. HSBC James Capel, the broker, was said to be behind the support for British Steel.

Also reporting next week is **Allied Domecq**, up 8½p at 484½p. Brokers are bracing for a sharp downturn in profits, but hopes are high that it may signal a demerger of the group into two separate division, spirits and retailing.

After the shock of its referral to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, **Airtours** went on a damage limitation exercise in the City and the shares put on 18½p at 670p.

The market had to contend with several more profit warnings. **Reliance Security Holdings** plummeted 60p to 120p wiping £14 million from the group's stock market value of £41 million. The decline in the share price has cost Brian Kingham, the chairman, who continues to hold 73 per cent of the shares, £10 million. The group blamed a slowdown in growth in the contract security market.

But the biggest fall on the day was reserved for **Roxboro Group**, down 79½p to 123p after it issued its second profits warning in a few months. After warning about second-half prospects in July, the group now says it is unlikely to match its revised estimates. It follows a further deterioration in demand at Dialight, its subsidiary.

Chelsea Village rose 9p to 105½p as City speculators pondered what the late Matthew Harding's trustees would do with his 25 per cent stake. The rise also coincided with the Premier Division side paying £4.5 million for Gianfranco Zola, of Italy.

A cash call by **Regalian Property** left the shares 2p cheaper at 35p. The group is raising almost £17 million by way of a rights issue on the basis of one-for-two at 30p. It wants the money to buy residential properties in central London.

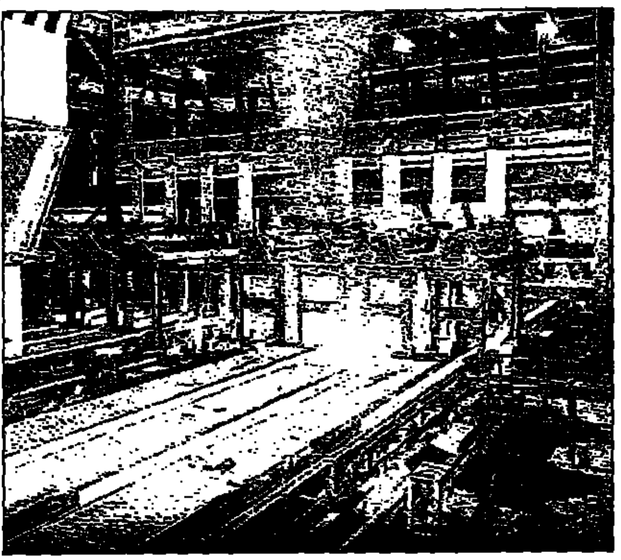
☐ **GILT-EDGED**: The market regained some of its poise with the help of the CBI survey that brokers said was not as bullish as first feared.

At one stage, prices at the longer end of the market were about £1 higher but closed below their best of the day as a big seller of German bunds turned the market easier.

In the futures pit, the December series of the Long Gilt touched £109½ before closing £13/32 higher at £103 31/32 as the number of contracts traded reached 81,000.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 was £7/16 better at £100 13/16, while in shorts, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 firmed £1/8 to £102 23/32.

☐ **NEW YORK**: Wall Street stocks were lower in early trading as a post-election rally petered out. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 8.95 points to 6,197.09.



British Steel firmed 4p to 171p ahead of half-year figures

Politicians are not known for putting their money where their mouths are, but that is not so with Lord Owen, the former Foreign Secretary. He has just paid 6¼p for a further million shares in Middlesex Holdings where he has been chairman for the past year. It doubles his stake to two million shares worth £122,000.

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change
BT	361½p	+10½p .... Bids £12 billion for MCI
PowerGen	546½p	+27½p .. Two more brokers turn bullish
East Midlands Elec.	593½p	+88½p ... Dominion Resources may bid
Yorkshire Foods	22p	-17p .... *Profits warning*
Airtours	670p	-12½pMM inquiry into package holidays
Northern Electric	605½p	-25½p .... CE Electric has 29%
Mackie International	145p	-71p .... Profits warning
Great Western Res.	16½p	+3p .... Bid approach
Roxboro Group	123	-98p ..... Second warning in two months

MAJOR INDICES

New York (*midday*):	
Dow Jones	6197.09 (-8.95)
S&P Composite	727.08 (-0.57)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	21201.04 (+429.93)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	12751.16 (+15.9)
Amsterdam:	
EOE Index	592.71 (+4.11)
Sydney:	
AO	2362.1 (+15.4)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	2739.83 (+26.61)
Singapore:	
Straits	2117.23 (+14.50)
Brussels:	
General	10009.79 (+16.93)
Paris:	
CAC-40	2205.20 (-6.61)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	801.00 (+0.70)
London:	
FT 30	2763.9 (+2.1)
FT 100	3910.8 (+10.4)
FTSE Mid 250	4395.6 (+1.3)
FTSE 350	1953.4 (+4.2)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	1787.53 (+10.81)
FT All-Share	1929.51 (+3.72)
FT Non Financials	2017.27 (+4.85)
FT Fixed Interest	115.57 (+0.37)
FT Govt Secs	93.74 (+0.38)
Bargains	36778
SEAQ Volume	768.2m
USM (Datastrm)	201.45 (-0.76)
US$	1.6435 (-0.0013)
German Mark	2.4781 (-0.0045)
Exchange Index	90.8 (-0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
E:ECU	1.2920
E:SDR	1.1304
RPI	153.8 Sep (2.1%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	153.6 Sep (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Beaufort (3)	4	...
Beechcroft	4	...
Brands Hatch Leis	174½	- 3
Britt Allcroft	159½	...
Charles Taylor	164½	...
Corp Exec Search (3)	4½	...
Deep Sea Leisure	162½	...
Geo Interactive (100)	91½	+ 1
Healthcare Reform	99½	...
Jardinerie Interiors	124½	...
John David Sports	297½	- 2
Loftus Road (72)	73	+ 1½
Mears Group	11½	...
Mondas (75)	90½	...
Oriental Resturnts	207½	...
Ultra Electronics	299½	+ 4½

RIGHTS ISSUES

Cairn Energy n/p (360)	¼	...
Capital Inds n/p (175)	5¼	+ ½
Euro Leis n/p (145)	13½	...
Perkins Foods n/p (74)	7½	...
Springwood n/p	87½	+ 3

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Wace	70½p (+10p)
Brit Biotech	230p (+16½p)
Cortecs	205p (+9½p)
Hamleys	420p (+15p)
Tomkins	262p (+8½p)
Airtours	670p (+18½p)
Tottenhm Hot	543p (+14p)
Bodycote	760p (+17½p)
Thorn	349p (+7p)
Br Airways	576½p (+9p)
Reckitt Colm	701p (+11½p)
FALLS:	
Reliance Sec	120p (-60p)
Senior Eng	114½p (-7p)
Therp Anti Inc	470p (-15p)
Haynes Pub	325p (-7½p)
Rosebys	286½p (-6p)
Laporte	711p (-13p)
Kingfisher	615p (-11p)
Gen Accident	712p (-11p)
French Conn	250p (-5p)
Geest	247½p (-5p)
Con Ritblat	215p (-6p)
Cookson	208½p (-7p)

Closing Prices Page 45

TEMPUS

Wanted: global spread

SHARES of Unilever jumped 71½p yesterday, or more than 5 per cent. This looks an excessively positive response to third-quarter results in which the sole surprise was the unexpectedly low level of one-off charges.

Investors had been nervous because of the rotten European summer and the company's rolling restructuring programme. Both fears were valid. Unilever probably lost about £50 million of profits from lower ice cream sales. And although the exceptional charge was restricted to £32 million, this benefit was a matter of timing as much as anything.

The charge often made against Unilever is that, for all its huge size, familiar consumer brands and constant deal-making, it is deeply boring. One reason is the sheer number of its businesses — most of which are immaterial to the overall group. This, and the company's reluctance to be more specific, often makes it difficult to get a handle on what's going on beneath the decks of the supertanker.

Some critics believe the breadth of the brand portfolio, which includes the mature tea and margarine businesses, masks a fundamental weakness. Many Unilever brands are national or regional, rather than truly international: it sells frozen food as Birds Eye in the UK, but as Iglo in Germany. Compared with rivals such as Procter & Gamble and Nestlé, its top global brands represent a relatively small proportion of total sales.

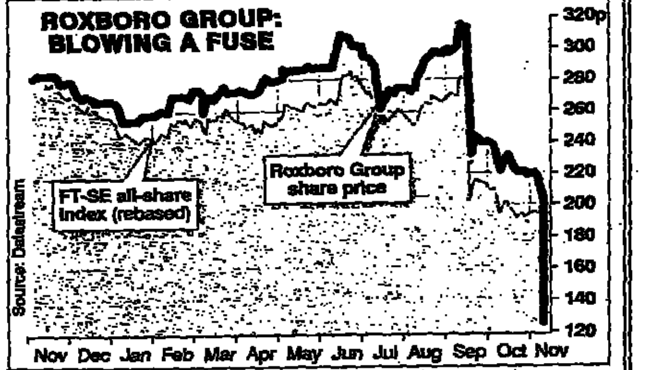
The worry is that P&G will soon present much tougher competition in Asia Pacific and other emerging markets where Unilever is strong. The progress of the shares is likely to depend much more on Unilever's success in creating and developing global brands.

Roxboro

SPARE a thought for Alf Vaisey, who joined Roxboro as finance director in August. His first significant task was to help to handle the next month's interim results announcement, when a warning about demand at its Dialight Electronics Product Group triggered a share price slide. Seven weeks later, he's helping to pen another trading statement and watching the price drop through the floor. Welcome aboard.

But if Mr Vaisey's feeling a little dazed by recent events, he's not alone. By most valuations, yesterday's share price fall to below 130p is an overreaction, particularly when you bear in mind that the EPG group accounts for about a third of sales, which means that two thirds of revenues are in line with expectations. Much of it stems, of course, from a rapid loss of confidence in a company that can take the market by surprise twice in such hasty succession. Equally, there are still some questions about the state of the US market which won't be answered in full until the independent consultant's report is completed.

In the meantime, some institutions will have had enough, short-term pressure is likely to be maintained on the shares and the market isn't going to forget in a hurry. As for sentiment, some of the more shell-shocked in the City were pointing out yesterday that problems normally come in threes.



Regalian

THE sun is once again up and shining on the London residential property market, after a number of false dawns since the recession.

That, at least, is the picture conveyed by results from Regalian. Against a background of rising property prices in London — some estimates say prices will have risen by about 10 per cent this year — Regalian's move to raise more funds in the stock market makes sense. Also encouraging are the healthy sales figures, with Regalian reaping the benefits of having tapped into the market of buyers in Hong Kong and Singapore.

The share price has already had a strong run over the past few months to touch a high this week of 37p. It has outperformed the market by more than 50 per cent on a 12-month view, but still stands at a discount to its net asset value of 42.24p.

The big question is the value of Regalian's stake in the redevelopment scheme around Paddington in central London, which at present is put at about £20 million, making up nearly half of the group's asset base. Regalian is confident that a large pot of gold is waiting to be uncovered once development of this site gets under way. Others are less certain.

Even so, given Regalian's exposure to the rising London market, shares in Regalian continue to look cheap and could be given a further boost if and when the Paddington scheme takes off.

Reliance Security

IT IS embarrassment enough to have to tell shareholders that profits will fall far short of their expectations; worse still when you, as chairman, hold 73 per cent of the equity and you know that the profit warning may well cost you a fortune.

In the event, Brian Kingham's disclosure that earnings at Reliance Security will fall short of last year's figure knocked 60p off the company's shares, which closed at 120p. The downturn wiped £10 million from the chairman's own investment in the business.

In fact the shares, which traded at 245p earlier this year, have been falling steadily since the beginning of October, when whispers in the market suggested all was not well.

Mr Kingham's assertion, made in mid-summer, that "the group's markets are now likely to see sustained growth" was being questioned some weeks before yesterday's disclosure. Reliance says the market for contract security management and manpower services has hit the buffers; the steady stream of short-term manpower security contracts has slowed to a mere trickle. Investors hoping for a prompt recovery of the share price will be disappointed.

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Dec	902-901	Mar	1013 SLR
Mar	934-933	May	1024-1022
May	950-949	Jul	1036-1030
Jul	968-967	Sep	1050-1036
Sep	985-984		
Dec	999-998		Volume: 2792

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Nov	*1550-1541*	*Jul*	*1375-1370*
Jan	1465-1461	Sep	1378-1370
Mar	1395-1393	Nov	1385-1360
May	1374-1373		Volume: 4140

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Aug	308.5-07.7
Spot, n/a		*Oct*	*303.0-02.1*
Dec	307.5-06.9	Dec	306.0-05.1
Mar	306.2-05.7	Mar	308.5-07.1
May	*306.9-06.2*		Volume: 2128

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on November 7

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	*89.77*	*135.29*	*103.38*
(+/-)	-3.60	+10.41	+3.05
Eng/Wales:	89.61	135.30	102.20
(+/-)	-3.61	+10.28	+3.10
(%)	+3.0	-13.0	-6.0
Scotland:	*103.68*	*135.25*	*107.56*
(+/-)	-9.95	+11.15	+1.95
(%)	+58.0	+15.0	+14.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	22.30	+0.60
Brent 15 day (Dec)	22.60	+0.35
Brent 15 day (Jan)	22.30	+0.35
W Texas Intermediate (Dec)	23.30	+0.40
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	23.05	+0.45

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	*225 (+1)*	*227 (+1)*
Gasoil EEC	220 (+2)	222 (+2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	111 (+2)	113 (+2)
Naphtha	219 (n/c)	221 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Dec	210.75-11.00	Mar	193.50-94.00
Jan	*206.75-07.00*	*Apr*	*187.75-88.00*
Feb	200.75-01.50		Vol. 22954

BRENT (6.00pm)

Dec	22.65-22.67	Mar	21.38-21.40
Jan	*22.33-22.36*	*Apr*	*20.90-20.92*
Feb	21.90-21.92		Vol: 25026

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Nov	94.75	Nov	91.50
Jan	96.50	Jan	92.25
Mar	98.20	Mar	93.50
May	99.40	May	94.75
Jul	100.65	Sep	92.00
	Volume: 180		Volume: 7

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Mar	unq	64.0
Apr	*69.5*	*69.1*
May	unq	77.5
		Volume: 12

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Nov 81.25-81.75

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Nov 96	1545	1510	1540
Dec 96	1495	1455	1490
Jan 97	1429	1400	1420
Apr 97	1425	1405	1425
Vol: 469 lots		*Open interest: 3782*	

Index 1477 -44

(Official) (Volume prev day)	LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		Rudolf Wolff
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	Cash: 3086.0-3087.0	3mth: 3012.0-3013.0	Vol: 1630750
Lead ($/tonne)	743.00-743.50	746.50-747.00	209800
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1047.5-1048.0	1068.0-1068.5	516625
Tin ($/tonne)	*5990.0-5995.0*	*5943.0-5945.0*	*19135*
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1441.0-1442.0	1460.5-1461.0	2276650
Nickel ($/tonne)	*7110.0-7115.0*	*7230.0-7221.0*	70026

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Dom	460	30½	37½	43	12	16	23
(*485)	500	10½	18½	24	34½	37½	44
ASDA	110	10½	12½	15	1½	3½	4½
(*117½)	120	4½	7	9	5½	7½	9
Boots	600	21½	36	44	16	22½	30½
(*607½)	650	5½	15	22	50½	54	60½
Br Airways	550	38½	50½	57½	10½	17½	24
(*576)	600	14	26½	32	35	41½	49½
BP	600	48½	61	69½	7½	18½	21½
(*643)	650	22	34	42	27½	38	43½
Br Steel	160	12½	17½	20½	3	5½	10
(*170½)	180	3½	8	11	14½	16	21½
C & W	460	28	40	48½	11	17½	24½
(*477½)	500	10	21	29	31½	38½	45
CU	600	47	57	63½	7	19	23
(*635½)	650	17½	29½	36½	27	45	48½
ICI	750	32	47	54½	18	35	40½
(*757½)	800	11½	24	32½	47½	65½	70½
Land Sec	700	17	33	40	16	22	31½
(*705)	750	4½	12½	18	53½	55	62½
M & S	460	30	41½	45½	5	9½	14½
(*484)	500	9	19½	25½	24½	28½	33½
Nat West	650	41	49	57½	11½	28	34½
(*671½)	700	15½	24	34	36½	56½	63
Safeway plc	330	31	39	43½	4	9	15
(*357)	360	11½	21½	26½	15½	21½	29
Sainsbury	330	25	34	37	3½	7½	13
(*352½)	360	8½	17	20½	17	20½	27½
Shell	950	40½	56½	65	15	34½	39½
(*968)	1000	18	33	39½	41	57½	65
Smkl Bch	750	36½	52	65½	19	32	40
(*764)	800	14½	29½	42½	48	59	67
Storehse	300	0	—	—	0	—	—
(*unq)	330	0	—	—	0	—	—
Trafalgar	50	0	—	—	0	—	—
(*unq)	60	0	—	—	0	—	—
Zeneca	1600	87½	117	141½	45	75½	63½
(*1619)	1700	42½	70	95½	101½	129½	137½
Series		Nov	Jan	Apr	Nov	Jan	Apr
BAT Ind	420	11½	23	32½	7½	15½	28½
(*421½)	460	1	9	16½	38½	41	55½
Vodafone	240	7	13½	21	3½	10	13½
(*244½)	260	0½	6	12	16	21½	25
Series		Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
Grnd Met	420	35	41	47	0	5	11½
(*454)	460	4½	19½	24½	8	26	29½
Ladbroke	180	9½	15½	19	1	4	8½
(*189)	200	0	5½	9	11½	13½	18½
Utd Bisc	200	7½	16	19½	1½	6½	10½
(*206½)	220	0½	6½	10	14	18	22½

November 8, 1996 Tot: 44869 Call: 19880 Put: 24989 FTSE Call:8421 Put: 11916
*Underlying security price.

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	500	16½	29½	37½	14	20½	26½
(*502)	550	2½	10½	17	52½	54½	58
Thames W	550	29	43	51½	11	20	32½
(*561½)	600	8	19½	27½	40	46	61½
Series		Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
BTR	240	7	16	18½	1½	7½	11½
(*245)	260	0½	7	9	15	18½	23
Br Aero	1100	52½	84	101	2	18½	30½
(*1149)	1150	17	53	72	15	38	51½
Br Telem	360	7	15	21½	5½	15½	19½
(*362½)	390	0	4½	10½	27½	36	39
Cadbury	460	37	48	54½	0	5	13
(*496)	500	4	21½	30	8	18½	30½
Guinness	420	13	30½	37½	1	7½	16
(*436)	460	0½	10½	16½	24	28½	38
GEC	360	7½	17½	25½	3½	11½	16
(*363½)	390	0	6	12½	26½	31	33
Hanson	110	8	10½	—	0½	4	—
(*117½)	119	1½	5½	—	3½	8½	—
LASMO	200	4½	13	16	3½	8½	10½
(*201)	220	0½	6½	8	19	21	22½
LucasVarity	240	11	20½	26½	1½	7½	12
(*249)	260	1½	10½	17	12	17½	22
Pilkingtn	140	18	20½	24	0	1½	3
(*158)	160	1½	7½	12	5	8½	10½
Prudential	420	30	42	47½	0½	7	14
(*449)	460	3½	18½	25	13½	23½	33½
Redland	390	30½	41½	46½	0	5½	12½
(*419½)	420	7½	22½	30	5	16	25½
R-Royce	240	8½	19½	22	2½	9½	13½
(*248)	260	1	10½	12½	14½	20½	24
Tesco	300	24	32½	38	0	4	9½
(*323)	330	3	13½	20½	9	19½	23
Williams	330	18½	—	—	0½	—	—
(*347½)	360	1	—	—	13	—	—

FTSE INDEX (*3910½)

	3800	3850	3900	3950	4000	4050
Calls						
Nov	111½	67	30	8	1	1
Dec	151	112½	79½	51	29½	15½
Jan	171½	134½	103	75½	52	35
Feb	196	162	129	100	76	56
Jun	255½	—	193	—	142½	—
Puts						
Nov	4½	10	21½	53	100	150
Dec	29	40½	58	83½	116	157
Jan	44	58	77	101	130	166
Feb	60	74½	93½	116½	144	177½
Jun	114½	—	151½	—	201½	—

Series		Calls Dec	Apr	Jul	Puts Dec	Apr	Jul
Abby Nat	600	55½	70	76½	2½	15½	20½
(*649)	650	19½	37½	47	17	30½	42
Amstrad	140	22	—	—	1½	—	—
(*159½)	160	9	—	—	8	—	—
Barclays	900	60½	81	91½	6	25	33
(*949½)	950	27½	50	62½	21½	47½	55½
Natl Pwr	400	35	44½	—	4	8½	—
(*433½)	450	5	17½	—	24½	30½	—
Series		Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
Glaxo W	950	42½	61½	76	25½	45	53½
(*956½)	1000	20	38	53	53½	73	81
HSBC	1250	75	102½	126	21	48½	67½
(*1291)	1300	46	74	99½	41	72½	90½
Reuter	700	61	77½	89	8	19½	25½
(*746)	750	29	47	61	25	40	47
Royal & Sun	394	31	39	—	4½	16	—
(*416)	431	10½	18	—	22	36	—
Series		Dec	Feb	May	Dec	Feb	May
Blue Circ	360	24½	31½	37½	3½	6½	14
(*378½)	390	6½	14½	21	16	19	29
Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Kingfishr	600	41	52	58½	16½	28½	34
(*615)	650	17½	27½	35	44	55½	61
Series		Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Unilever	1300	48	76½	94½	8	18	38
(*1340½)	1350	16½	45½	55½	29½	38½	61
Series		Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Br Gas	180	14½	19½	21½	2	4	8½
(*191½)	200	4	9½	11½	10	13½	19
Dixons	500	55	65½	77	3½	8	15
(*549½)	550	18½	34	46½	15½	26	32
EMI Group	1200	37	66	91½	25½	46½	55
(*1203½)	1250	16	43½	67½	55	74½	82
Tarmac	80	7	10½	12½	1	2½	3½
(*85½)	90	2	5½	[illegible]	5½	7½	9
Hillsdown	160	15½	20	22	0½	2½	6
(*174)	180	3	8	10	7½	11	16½
Lonrho	130	11	14	16	0½	4½	5½
(*139)	140	4½	8½	10½	4	9	10½
Sears	80	8	—	—	0½	—	—
(*87)	90	2	—	—	4½	—	—
Thorn EMI	1500	73	—	—	11	—	—
(*1552½)	1600	18½	—	—	54	—	—
Tomkins	260	11	17½	23½	6½	12	15
(*262)	280	3½	9	14½	19½	24	26½
Lloyds TSB	360	24	31	35½	1½	10	14
(*380½)	390	5½	13½	20	13	25½	29½
Scot Pwr	294	30	35	—	1	4½	—
(*321½)	325	9½	16½	—	8	19½	—

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FTSE 100 Previous open interest: 61825	Dec 96	3909.0	3930.0	3907.0	3919.0	13677
	Mar 97	3934.0	3940.0	3934.0	3934.5	21
FTSE 250 Previous open interest: 4129	Dec 96	4425.0	4425.0	4425.0	4425.0	64
	Mar 97					0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 511572	Dec 96	93.60	93.63	93.59	93.60	10041
	Mar 97	93.31	93.38	93.30	93.33	13930
	Jun 97	93.01	93.09	93.00	93.03	19222
Three Mth Euro Yen	Mar 97	99.28	99.30	99.28	99.29	135
	Jun 97	99.08	99.10	99.08	99.10	1740
Three Mth Euro DM *Previous open interest: 1117468*	Dec 96	96.80	96.81	96.78	96.78	10977
	Mar 97	*96.80*	*96.80*	*96.76*	*96.76*	*14644*
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 149959	*Dec 96*	*108-26*	*109-15*	*108-23*	*108-31*	*81155*
	Mar 97	108-19	108-19	108-19	108-06	32
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 96	123.95	124.01	123.77	123.96	3823
	Mar 97	123.21	123.21	122.96	123.12	1468
German Gov Bd Bund Previous open interest: 280963	Dec 96	100.52	100.55	100.18	100.23	130940
	Mar 97	99.50	99.50	99.21	99.22	4264
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 27704	Dec 96	95.82	95.82	95.79	95.79	384
	Mar 97	95.82	95.82	95.78	95.78	203
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open interest: 89179	Dec 96	98.01	98.02	97.94	97.99	4992
	Mar 97	97.93	97.94	97.87	97.92	5069
Italian Govmt Bond Previous open interest: 99514	Dec 96	125.79	126.01	125.60	125.71	44788
	Mar 97	125.10	125.10	124.90	124.92	618

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 6
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6 Low 5½ Week fixed: 6⅛
Treasury *Bills (Dis)*:*Buy*: 2 mth 5 27/32 ; 3 mth 5 27/32 . *Sell*: 2 mth 5¾ ; 3 mth: 5 25/32 .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5 29/32-5 27/32	6-5 15/16	6 1/16-6	6⅛-6 1/16	
Sterling Money Rates:	6 1/32-6 1/32	6 1/16-6 1/32	6 3/32-6 1/32	6¼-6 3/16	6½-6⅜
Interbank:	6 1/32-6 1/32	6 1/16-6 1/32	6 3/32-6 1/32	6¼-6 3/16	6½-6⅜

Overnight: open 6 , close 5¾ .

Local Authority *Deps:*	6 1/32	n/a	6 3/32	6 5/32	6½
Sterling CDs:	6 1/16-6 1/32	6 1/32-6 1/16	6 3/32-6 1/16	6 5/16-6 5/32	6 11/32-6⅜
Dollar CDs:	5.29	n/a	5.38	5.45	5.62
Building Society CDs:	6 1/32-6 1/32	6 1/32-6 1/32	6 1/16-6⅛	6⅛-6 3/16	6 13/32-6 11/32

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £903m allotted: £200m: Bids: £98.520% received: 6%: Last week: £98.530 received: 27%: Avge rate: £5.9068% last wk £5.8592%: Next week: £300m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	*7 day*	*1 mth*	*3 mth*	*6 mth*	*Call*
Dollar:	5 1/16-4 15/16	5½-5⅜	5½-5⅜	5 9/16-5 7/16	5-4
Deutschemark:	3⅛-2⅞	3 1/16-2 15/16	3 3/16-3 1/16	3 5/16-3 3/16	3⅛-2¾
French Franc:	3⅝-3⅜	3½-3⅜	3⅝-3⅜	3⅝-3½	3⅝-2¾
Swiss Franc:	1 11/16-1 7/16	1⅝-1½	1 13/16-1 11/16	2-1⅞	2-1
Yen:	7/16-5/16	⅜-¼	7/16-5/16	½-⅜	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $378.90-379.20 Close: $378.70-379.20 High: $379.40-379.90
Low: $377.00-377.50 AM: $378.35 PM: $378.15

Krugerrand: $378.00-381.00 (£229.50-230.50)

Platinum: $381.50 (£231.55) **Silver:** $4.82 (£2.925) **Palladium:** $116.00 (£70.40)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for November 8	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.7771-2.8032	2.7771-2.7796	⅛-⅛pr	2⅜-2¼pr
Brussels	51.034-51.360	51.034-51.105	16-11pr	45-38pr
Copenhagen	9.5257-9.6080	9.5257-9.5348	2⅛-1⅝pr	6⅛-5⅝pr
Dublin	0.9959-1.0010	0.9959-0.9974	6-2pr	19-13pr
Frankfurt	2.4753-2.4991	2.4753-2.4782	¾-⅝pr	2⅛-1⅞pr
Lisbon	250.41-253.01	250.41-250.73	⅛-⅛ds	⅛-⅛ds
Madrid	208.42-210.38	208.42-208.63	8-18ds	21-39ds
Milan	2493.3-2512.4	2493.3-2496.6	41-57ds	69-91ds
Montreal	2.1862-2.1989	2.1878-2.1899	0.58-0.54pr	0.124-0.112pr
New York	1.6442-1.6530	1.6442-1.6452	0.123-0.102pr	0.36-0.33pr
Oslo	10.401-10.495	10.401-10.413	⅛-⅛pr	⅝-⅜pr
Paris	8.3733-8.4480	8.3733-8.3916	2⅛-1⅝pr	6⅛-5⅝pr
Stockholm	10.842-10.962	10.842-10.860	⅛-⅛pr	⅝-⅜pr
Tokyo	183.33-185.29	183.33-183.60	⅝-⅜pr	2⅛-2⅜pr
Vienna	17.418-17.588	17.418-17.438	⅝-⅜pr	1⅝-1⅜pr
Zurich	2.0855-2.1073	2.0855-2.0883	⅝-⅜pr	2⅜-2⅛pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	*1.2690-1.2698*
Austria	10.59-10.60
Belgium (Com)	31.05-31.10
Canada	*1.3305-1.3310*
Denmark	5.7980-5.8000
France	5.1022-5.1032
Germany	1.5085-1.5090
Hong Kong	7.7322-7.7332
Ireland	1.6470-1.6485
Italy	1518.80-1520.30
Japan	111.64-111.74
Malaysia	2.5180-2.5190
Netherlands	1.6922-1.6932
Norway	6.3357-6.3394
Portugal	*152.67-152.77*
Singapore	1.4010-1.4020
Spain	127.02-127.07
Sweden	*6.6090-6.6165*
Switzerland	1.2717-1.2722

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6450-1.6477
Australia dollar	2.0872-2.0892
Bahrain dinar	0.6175-0.6295
*Brazil real**	*1.6979-1.7024*
China yuan	n/a
Cyprus pound	0.7525-0.7625
Finland markka	7.4825-7.5985
Greece drachma	391.25-398.25
Hong Kong dollar	*12.7106-12.7223*
India rupee	58.67-59.63
Indonesia rupiah	3825.0-3893.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4895-0.4995
Malaysia ringgit	4.1416-4.1458
New Zealand dollar	*2.3160-2.3211*
Pakistan rupee	65.85 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.9600-6.0840
Singapore dollar	2.3045-2.3076
S Africa rand (com)	7.7120-7.8140
U A E dirham	*6.0125-6.1365*

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	281	Lloyds TSB	2,800
ASDA Gp	2,600	LucasVarity	5,100
Abbey Ntl	2,600	Marks Spr	6,000
Allied Dom	6,600	NatWst Bk	3,700
Argos	253	*Nat Grid*	4,900
AB Foods	321	*Nat Power*	3,500
BAA	1,500	Next	410
BAT Inds	3,100	*Orange*	2,200
BOC	496	P & O	2,300
BP	23,200	Pearson	1,500
BSkyB	6,800	*Pilkington*	11,000
BTR	6,000	PowerGen	2,000
BT	8,500	Prudential	1,800
Bk of Scot	2,400	*RMC*	540
Barclays	3,000	RTZ	971
Bass	260	Railtrack	4,500
Blue Circle	944	Rank Group	4,800
Boots	2,500	Reckitt Col	1,700
BAe	572	Redland	1,200
BA	3,100	Reed Intl	1,300
Brit Gas	124,000	Rentokil	2,000
Brit Steel	8,100	Reuters	3,300
Burmah Cstl	472	Rolls Royce	4,500
Burton	17,800	Royal & Sun	2,100
Cable Wire	6,600	*Royal Bk Sct*	471
Cadbury	3,200	*Safeway*	1,900
Carlton Cms	1,500	Sainsbury	2,300
Cm Union	802	*Schroders*	225
Courtaulds	430	Scot & New	525
Dixons	2,200	Scot Power	1,000
EMI	419	*Svrn Trent*	2,900
Enterpr Oil	2,000	Shell Trans	3,000
GKN	664	Siebe	1,200
GRE	1,100	SmKl Bch	7,300
GUS	3,000	Smith Nph	11,300
Gen Acc	277	Smiths Inds	385
Gen Elec	3,600	Std Chartd	3,000
Glaxo Well	3,900	TI Gp	1,100
Granada	1,200	*Tate & Lyle*	274
Grand Met	4,000	Tesco	5,700
Guinness	4,200	Thames W	1,400
HSBC	975	*Tomkins*	5,300
Hanson	30,800	Unilever	3,800
ICI	738	Utd Utilities	1,600
Imp Tob	3,300	*Utd News*	864
Kingfisher	2,200	Vodafone	3,100
LASMO	2,400	*Whitbread*	1,300
Ladbroke	2,000	Wlms Hld	1,700
Land Secs	692	Wolseley	1,400
Legal & Gn	4,600	*Zeneca*	957

WALL STREET

	Nov 8 midday	Nov 7 close
AMP Inc	34½	34½
AMR Corp	85½	86½
ASA	39½	39½
AT & T	35½	35½
Abbott Labs	53	52½
Advanced Micro	20½	20½
Aetna Life	69	68
Ahmanson (HF)	31½	31½
Air Prod & Chem	66½	66½
AirTouch Comm	27	27
Alberto-Culver B	46½	47½
Albertson's	34½	34½
Alcan Alumnm	33½	33½
Alco Standard	45½	46½
Allied Signal	70½	71½
Alum Co of Am	59½	59½
Amax Gold Inc	5½	5½
Amerada Hess	55	54½
Amer Brands	48½	49½
Amer El Power	42½	42½
Amer Express	48½	48½
Amer-Genl Corp	38½	38½
Amer Home Pr	64½	64½
Amer Intl	110½	110½
Amer Stores	40½	40½
Amer Standard	36½	36½
Ameritech	54½	55½
Amoco	75	74½
Anheuser-Busch	41½	40
Apple Computer	25½	25½
Archer Daniels	21½	21½
Armco	3½	4
Armstrng Wrld	69½	68½
Asarco	25½	25½
Atl Richfield	131½	130½
Auto Data Pro	42½	42
Avery Dennison	66½	66½
Avon Products	56½	56½
Baker Hughes	34½	34½
Baltim Gas & El	28½	28½
Banc One	42½	42½
BankAmerica	94½	94½
Bank of NY	33½	34
Bankers Tr NY	83½	83½
Barnett Banks	40	40½
Bausch & Lomb	33½	33½
Baxter Intl	43	42½
Becton Dicknsn	43½	44
Bell Atlantic	61½	61½
Bell Industries	17½	17½
BellSouth	41½	41½
Black & Decker	36½	37½
Block (H&R)	29½	29½
Boeing	94½	92½
Boise Cascade	27½	28½
Bristol Myrs Sq	112	110½
Browning Ferris	26½	26½
Brunswick	24½	24½
Burlington Nthn	86½	86½
CMS Energy Corp	31½	31½
CNA Financial	101½	101½
CPC Intl	79½	79½
CSX	44½	44½
Campbell Soup	81	81½
Can Pacific	26½	26½
Carolina Pwr	36½	37
Caterpillar	72½	73½
Central & SW	27½	27½
Champion Intl	41½	42
Chase Manhat	89½	89½
Chevron Corp	65½	65½
Chrysler	32½	32½
Chubb Corp	51½	50½
Cigna Corp	134½	135½
Citicorp	101½	101½
Clorox	107½	108½
Coastal Corp	43½	44½
Coca Cola	52½	52½
Coca Cola Ent	46½	45½
Colgate-Palmolive	95½	93½
Columbia Gas	60½	61
ColumbiaHCA	38½	39½
Compaq Comp	73½	73½
Comp Ass Intl	60½	60½
Conagra	51½	52
Conrail	95½	93
Cons Edison	29½	30½
Cons Nat Gas	54½	54½
Cooper Inds	40½	40½
Corestates	50½	50½
Corning Inc	39	39½
Crown Cork	49½	50½
Dana Corp	29½	29½
Dayton Hudson	37½	38
Deere	39½	40
Delta Air Lines	74	74½
Deluxe Corp	33½	34
Digital Equip	29½	28½
Dillard Dept St	32½	32½
Disney (Walt)	68½	69
Dominion Res	39½	39½
Donnelley (RR)	31	31½
Dover Corp	51½	51½
Dow Chemical	80½	80½
Dow Jones	32½	32½
Dresser	32	32
Duke Power	48½	48½
Dun & Bradstreet	21½	21½
Du Pont	95½	95½
Eastman Chem	53½	53½
Eastman Kodak	80½	81½
Eaton Corp	62½	62½
Edison Intl	20½	20½
Emerson Elec	94½	94½
Engelhard Corp	18½	18½
Enron Corp	44½	45½
Entergy	28½	28½
Ethyl Corp	8½	8½
Exxon	89	88½
FMC Corp	75½	75½
FPL Group	47½	48
Federal Express	42½	42½
Fed Nat Mtge	39½	39½
First Bk Sys	66½	67½
First Union Rlty	8½	8½
Fleet Finl Grp	51½	52½
Fluor Corp	66½	66½
Ford Motor	31½	31
GTE Corp	43½	43½
Gannett	77	77½
Gap Inc Del	31½	31½
Gencorp	16½	16½
Gen Dynamics	68½	68½
Gen Electric	101	102½
Gen Mills	58½	58½
Gen Motors	54½	54½
Gen Reinsurance	154½	154½
Gen Signal	41½	42
Genuine Parts	44½	44½
Georgia Pac	70	70
Gillette	75½	76½
Glaxo Welle ADR	31½	31½
Goodrich (BF)	42½	43½
Goodyear Tire	47½	47½
Grt Atl Pac Tea	32½	32½
Great Wstn Fin	28½	27½
Halliburton	58½	59½
Harcourt General	50½	50½
Heinz (HJ)	36½	36½
Hercules	47½	48
Hershey Foods	49½	49½
Hewlett Packard	47½	48½
Hilton Hotels	31½	31½
Home Depot	55½	54½
Homestake Mng	15½	14½
Honeywell	65½	65½
Household Intl	91½	90½
Houston Inds	24	24½
Humana	20½	19½
ITT Corp	42½	41½
Illinois Tool	75½	76
Illinova	28½	28½
INCO	31½	31½
Ingersoll Rand	42	42½
Inland Steel	16½	16½
Intel Corp	121½	122½
IBM	133½	133½
Intl Flav & Fr	42½	41½
Intl Paper	41½	42½
James River Va	30½	30½
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	51½	51½
Kellogg	66½	67½
Kerr-McGee	63½	63½
Kimberly-Clark	96½	97½
Kmart	9½	9½
Knight-Ridder	38½	38½
Lilly (Eli)	77½	76½
Limited Inc	17½	18
Lincoln Nat	49	48½
Litton	46½	46
Liz Claiborne	42½	42
Lockheed Martin	88½	89½
Louisiana Pac	21½	21½
MCI Comm	28½	28½
Marriott Int	55½	55½
Marsh & McLnn	111	110½
Masco Corp	33½	33½
May Dept St	48½	48
Maytag Corp	20	20
McDonalds	47½	46½
McDonnell D	55½	55½
McGraw Hill	46½	46½
Mead Corp	56½	56
Medtronic	67½	67
Mellon Bk	66	66½
Melville Corp	39	38½
Merck Inc	80½	79½
Merrill Lynch	76½	76½
Microsoft	142½	143½
Minnesota Mine	79½	79½
Mobil Corp	116½	117½
Monsanto	40	41
Morgan (JP)	89½	88½
Motorola Inc	48½	48½
Natl Semi	21½	21½
Natl Service Ind	34½	34
Navistar Int	9½	9½
NY Times A	36½	37½
Newmont Mng	47	46½
Niag Mohawk	8½	8½
Nike B	56	56½
NL Industries	8½	8½
Noram Energy	15½	15½
Nordstrom	39½	40½
Norfolk Sthrn	86	87
Nthn State Pwr	48½	49
Norwest Corp	43½	44½
Nynex Corp	45½	45½
Occidental Pet	24½	24½
Ohio Edison	21½	21½
Oracle	45½	45½
Oryx Energy Co	20½	19½
Overseas Ship	16½	16½
Owens Corning	38½	38½
PHH Corp	30½	30½
PPG Industries	58½	58½
PNC Bank	37½	37½
PP&L Res	24½	24½
Paccar Inc	59	59½
Pacificorp	21½	22
Pac Enterprises	31	30½
Pac Gas & Elec	23½	23½
Pac Telesis	34½	34½
Pall Corp	26½	26½
Parker Hannifin	37½	37½
Peco Energy	22	22½
Penney (JC)	52½	53½
Pennzoil	50½	50½
Pepsico	30½	30½
Pfizer	89½	88½
Pharm & Upjhn	36½	36½
Phelps Dodge	64½	63½
Philip Morris	98½	98½
Phillips Pet	41½	41½
Pitney Bowes	56½	57
Polaroid	39½	40
PriceCostco	21½	21½
Procter & Gmbl	105½	104½
Providian	49½	48½
Pub Serv E & G	27½	27½
Quaker Oats	38½	38½
Ralston Purina	75½	76½
Raychem Corp	79½	79½
Raytheon	50½	49½
Reebok Intl	37½	38½
Reynolds Metals	56½	56
Rockwell Intl	57½	59½
Rohm & Haas	75½	74½
Royal Dutch	162	160½
Rubbermaid	22½	22½
SBC Comms	48½	49½
Safeco Corp	39½	39
St Paul's Cos	54½	55
Salomon Inc	45½	45½
Sara Lee Corp	38½	38½
Schering Plough	69½	68½
Schlumberger	98½	99½
Seagram	37½	37½
Sears Roebuck	46½	46
Shell Trans	96½	96
Sherwin Wlms	54½	55½
Skyline Corp	26½	27
Snap-On-Tools	32½	33½
Southern Co	22½	22½
Sprint Corp	41½	41½
Stanley Works	29½	29
Sun Company	22½	22½
Sun Microsys	64½	64½
Suntrust	46½	47
Supervalu	30	30½
Sysco Corp	35	34½
TRW Inc	94½	95
TCC Inds	1½	1½
Tandem Comp	13½	13½
Tandy Corp	38½	38½
Temple Inland	49½	49½
Tenneco	50½	50½
Texaco	99½	98½
Texas Inst	53½	54½
Texas Utilities	41½	41½
Textron	90½	90½
Time Warner	38½	39½
Times-Mirror A	47½	47½
Timken	44½	45
Torchmark	49½	49½
Toys R Us	34½	35½
Transamerica	77½	77½
Travelers	61½	60½
Tribune	84	84
Tyco Int	50½	50½
UST Inc	29½	29½
UAL	48½	49
US Inds	23	23½
US West Comm	32½	30½
USX Marathon	22½	22½
Unicom	28	28½
Unilever NV	162	158½
Union Camp	47½	47½
Union Carbide	43½	44½
Union Pacific	58½	58½
Unisys Corp	6½	6
USAIR Group	20½	20
USF&G Corp	19½	19½
US Life	30½	37½
United Tech	131½	131½
Unocal Corp	37½	37½
VF Corp	68½	69½
WMX Tech	34½	34½
Wal-Mart Stores	26½	26½
Warner-Lambert	68½	68½
Wells Fargo	271½	272½
Westinghouse El	19½	18½
Weyerhaeuser	45½	46
Whirlpool	47½	47½
Whitman	20½	20½
Winn Dixie	34½	34½
Woolworth	22	21½
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	59½	60½
Xerox	45	45½
Yellow Corp	14½	14½

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MIDNIGHT HOUR 32

Costly consequences of a paying the rent on time

WEEKEND MONEY

SHAREOUT 34

Two steps to get in Teps

THE [illegible] PERSONAL FINANCE NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Row on pension rights

Caroline Merrell looks into a wrangle between ITN and fund members over their benefits

ITN has launched a High Court challenge to the Pensions Ombudsman over a ruling granting one of its employees guaranteed rises in his pension. If ITN loses, the case could cost it thousands of pounds as about 300 pensioners, including some of the founders of ITN, are disputing the company's decision to cut pensions.

The angry pensioners have been in dispute with the television news company for more than two years over their rights to pension increases.

While the row has been going on some of former ITN employees have died, including Ivor Mills, the newscaster, and Alan Downes, the cameraman most famous for his filming of the Vietnam War.

The pensioners claimed they had been led to believe that their pensions would rise 4 per cent a year. ITN is disputing that the scheme rules dictated that this was the case. The pension cuts followed a period during which ITN stopped contributions, claiming the scheme was overfunded.

An actuary with the scheme admitted to pensioners that this could have saved the company about £8 million. ITN refused to comment on this figure. However, last year ITN's profits were boosted from £9 million to £15 million, helping to value the company at £102.5 million. The Daily Mail and General Trust bought a 20 per cent stake in ITN for about £20 million in April, based on this valuation.

The Pensions Ombudsman, who is currently Julian Farrand, has had decisions legally challenged about 20 times — and some have been successful. Last year the office decided to investigate 1,000 complaints, about a quarter of those that were lodged with the office. About a third of those investigated were found in favour of the complainant.

The group of pensioners, headed by Peter Ward, ITN's former chief engineer, and Peter Cole, former deputy managing editor, first took their case to the Occupational Pensions Advisory Service, which referred them to the Pensions Ombudsman. "From the beginning, we have tried not to make this an acrimonious dispute, but we do feel that we have been promised something that ITN subsequently failed to deliver. We are now trying to get all the aggrieved pensioners to complain to the ombudsman," Mr Cole said.

Mr Cole is on a pension of about £25,000 a year, but believes many will be on pensions that are much lower than that. Mr Ward said: "The 300 ITN pensioners were incensed when ITN reneged on the promised pension increases after taking a contributions holiday. The trustees have been able to finance their long legal battle against pensioners from pension scheme funds, including briefing an eminent QC, but the pensioners cannot afford to fight their case in the High Court.

"Now ITN and the pension fund trustees are even asking the High Court to order the pensioners to pay the cost of the company's and the trustees' appeal against the ombudsman's findings. I have rarely heard of anything so reprehensible," he said.

The ombudsman found partially in favour of the pensioners, by saying that the 4 per cent guaranteed rises would be applied only to the benefits that accrued before the October 19, 1979.

The judgment said: "The past trustees and the company were guilty of maladministration causing injustice in the form of disappointment and distress in misleading the complainant by indicating that all pensions in payment would be increased by 4 per cent per annum." ITN disputes even this and is taking the case to the High Court in spite of its failure to get the ombudsman's decision overturned on appeal. It is refusing to comment on the case.

The case echoes one concerning Plessey, the electronics company, which is currently waiting for a hearing in the High Court. In this case, hundreds of pensioners are trying to get their private medical care rights reinstated. They were withdrawn after the company was taken over by GEC in 1989. Among those campaigning for reinstatement is Lady Clark, wife of Sir John Clark, Plessey's former chairman, who suffered a stroke last year. The replacement scheme offered was not enough to cover his treatment.

Saving towards new era

With the end of the century looming, financial services companies are taking the opportunity to offer products that mature in the millennium (Caroline Merrell writes).

Among them is the Bristol & West Building Society. As well as giving savers a lump sum to start the next century with, its Millennium Bond exploits the new move towards family values, as it allows up to four people to save together, be they friends or family. The interest rate on the bond for the entire term is 22 per cent gross, which amounts to 7.33 per cent a year — this rate is fixed for the term of the bond.

Savers take the risk that the prevailing interest rate will rise above this which means they could lose out. Many believe that interest rates are set to go up further after last week's 0.25 per cent rise and the Bank of England's call for higher rates.

If money is withdrawn from the bond early, then the interest on the sum is lost.

The bond has a minimum investment of £1,000, which can be topped up at any time during the life of the bond, provided the society has enough funds available.

All those named on the account must agree for money to be withdrawn. Comparable products could include Tax Exempt Special Savings Accounts (Tessas), although an account opened now would mature after the end of the century. Rates on some Tessas will move up with interest rates, and interest is tax-free.

Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth

Fixed rates are set to move

Borrowers who want fixed-rate loans should move fast before more lenders copy the Cheltenham & Gloucester and the Northern Rock in pushing rates up in response to last week's base-rate rise, mortgage advisers said this week.

C&G, now the mortgage arm of Lloyds Bank, has withdrawn its range of fixed-rate loans and replaced them with others costing between 0.3 and 0.5 percentage points more. Northern Rock has also withdrawn its rates, replacing them with loans which are up to 0.4 per cent higher.

Other lenders are certain to follow suit either before Christmas or in the new year.

C&G now has a two-year fixed-rate of 6.99 per cent, up from 6.59 per cent, and a five-year fixed-rate of 8.29 per cent, up from 7.99 per cent. But both are still good deals, advisers believe, because they carry no early redemption penalties or lock-ins after the end of the fixed-rate term. A cheaper two-year fixed-rate of 5.49 per cent and a five-year fix of 7.59 per cent carry a penalty of six months' gross interest levied on borrowers who do not stay with the C&G for five years on the two-year fix and six years on the five.

So far, these two societies are the only leading lenders to have raised its fixed rates. Other lenders are likely to announce similar rises when they have used up their existing tranches of fixed-rate funds. Last week's rate rise means they will have to pay a higher price on money markets for fixed rates, which they will hand on to their customers. But they are unlikely to scrap existing offers before the money runs out, as they have done in the past after a base-rate rise. The money markets had allowed for the 0.25 per cent rise and priced funds accordingly.

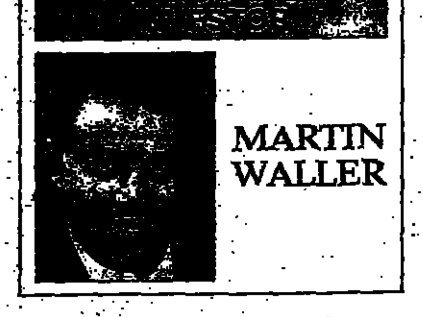
So far, only the Birmingham Midshires has increased its variable rate from 6.99 per cent to 7.24 per cent. Others fear of choking off the struggling housing market recovery. But further base-rate rises will force them to move. This and the political uncertainty of a general election make a fixed-rate loan tempting.

But Patrick Bunton of London & Country, the independent mortgage adviser, says borrowers should understand what they are getting into. He says: "Deals to avoid include those where there is a two-year fixed-rate and you are actually locked in for five or six years. You are locking yourself into the lender's variable rate after the end of the fixed-rate term."

Delays in processing mortgage applications, exposed in Weekend Money, could also mean that borrowers miss out on some of the benefit of the fixed rate if the deal has a set end date. Mr Bunton says: "You need to watch for deals with a set fixed period. It is better to take a loan where the fixed rate starts from the completion date."

SARA MCCONNELL

Keeping Northern lights on



MARTIN WALLER

I have some relatives who run a farm on one of the less bleak North Wales mountains. When their local electricity company, Manweb, was bid for last year, we City sophisticates started looking at prospective dividend yields and all the rest. My relatives were interested too, but they wanted to know whether their lights would stay on.

There is an astonishing and entrenched local loyalty to the old CEGB boards and their successors, the regional electricity companies or Recs, especially in rural areas, because in times of bad weather they keep the home warm, the lights burning and farmers' stock alive. When the powerlines are down, it is the man from the local board in his distinctive van who makes the difficult trek through snow-choked roads and into the mountains. This is something urban dwellers who can hardly remember the last time the power went out may find hard to understand.

There are only five of the original 12 Recs in England and Wales still independent. Of the seven taken over, four went to American companies no one had ever heard of before. Over the past fortnight two of the survivors have attracted takeover attention from yet more unknown Americans. Northern is fighting a £759 million offer from CalEnergy of Nebraska, a state hitherto known to many Britons only as the title of a rather depressing Bruce Springsteen album. East Midlands is being eyed up by something called Dominion Resources of Virginia.

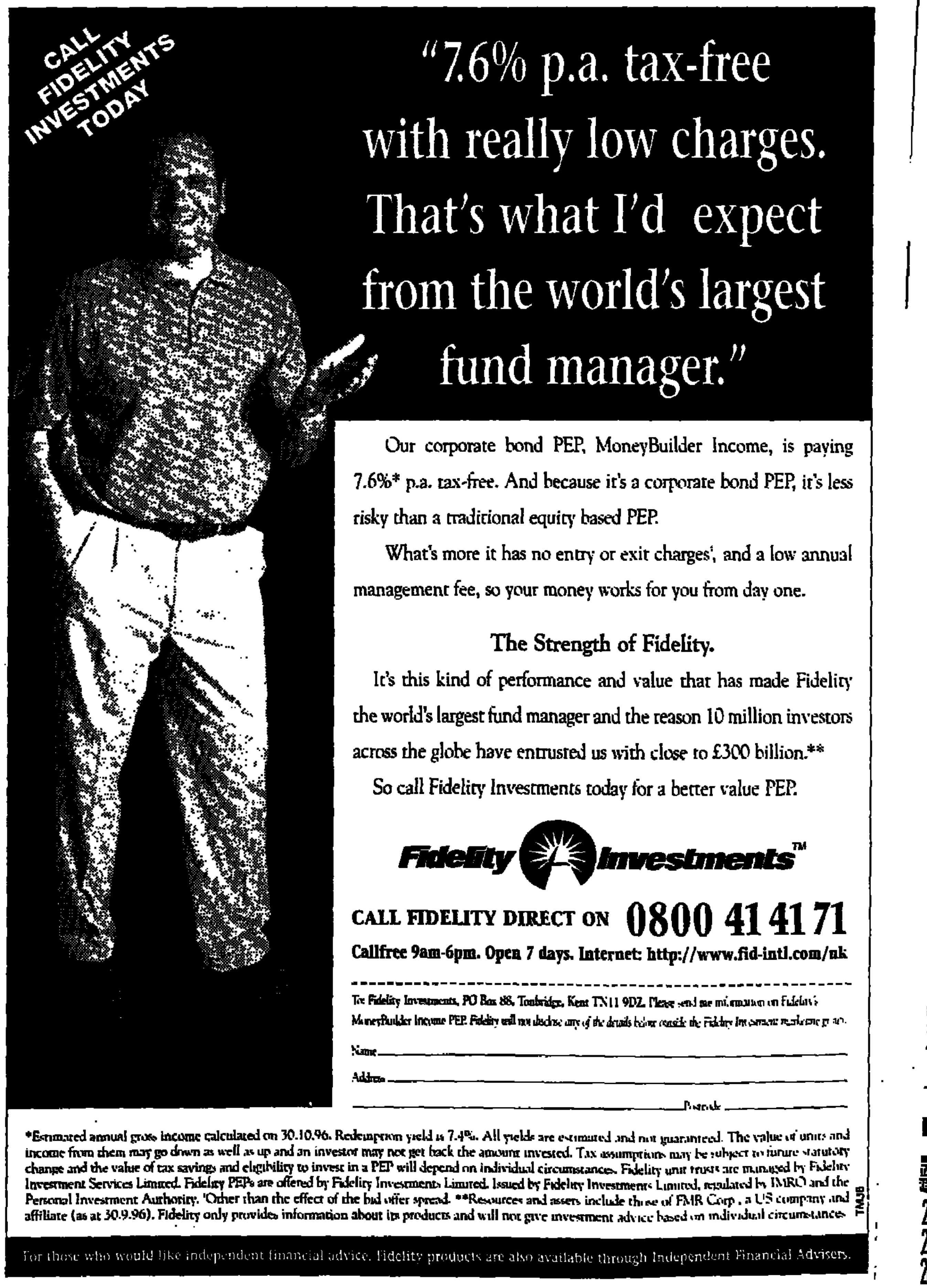
Early last year Northern was fighting another unwanted bid, from Trafalgar House, the engineer. In most takeovers, the interests of the company's customers and of its shareholders are quite different. The latter decide whether to take the boodle, the former make out as they can. But at a special meeting called to allow Trafalgar's bid to go ahead, small shareholders voted three to one to oppose it, saying overwhelmingly they would rather not have Trafalgar's £11 for some shares they had paid 240p for.

Northern has 104,000 private shareholders with 22 per cent of the company, nearly all local and reliant on it for electricity. After the Trafalgar bid was abandoned, the company turned out to be rather less well off than had been thought, and was bought by a Norwegian concern for just three quarters the price offered for Northern. Many people wondered, with the benefit of hindsight, how long the lights would have burnt on Tyneside had Trafalgar succeeded.

Much of CalEnergy's £900 million debt is of the "junk bond" variety, less safe than proper bank borrowings and used to build power stations around the world. The debt is non-recourse, which means it does not come back to haunt the company in Nebraska. CalEnergy assures us that Northern under its ownership will be "ring-fenced", operated as a financially independent entity. There is still concern that, if times are hard in Nebraska, money will make its way there from Northern, at the expense of investment on the wires on Tyneside.

There is a groundswell of opinion that says the Northern bid, and any for East Midlands that emerges, should be referred by the Government to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. This would put the situation on hold for a few months at least, and prevent immediate political embarrassment. The Americans might even lose interest.

Those private shareholders will be equally supportive of their local company this time. City institutions, naturally, who do not rely on Northern for their electricity, supported Trafalgar and will likewise accept a CalEnergy bid. But the matter might be settled by Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, who has the final decision on an MMC reference. CalEnergy has already bought 30 per cent of Northern in the stock market. This could turn out to be an expensive mistake, because the Northern share price now suggests that the bid will be referred. In which case the shares would plunge further — and those small shareholders who are also customers would raise a cheer.



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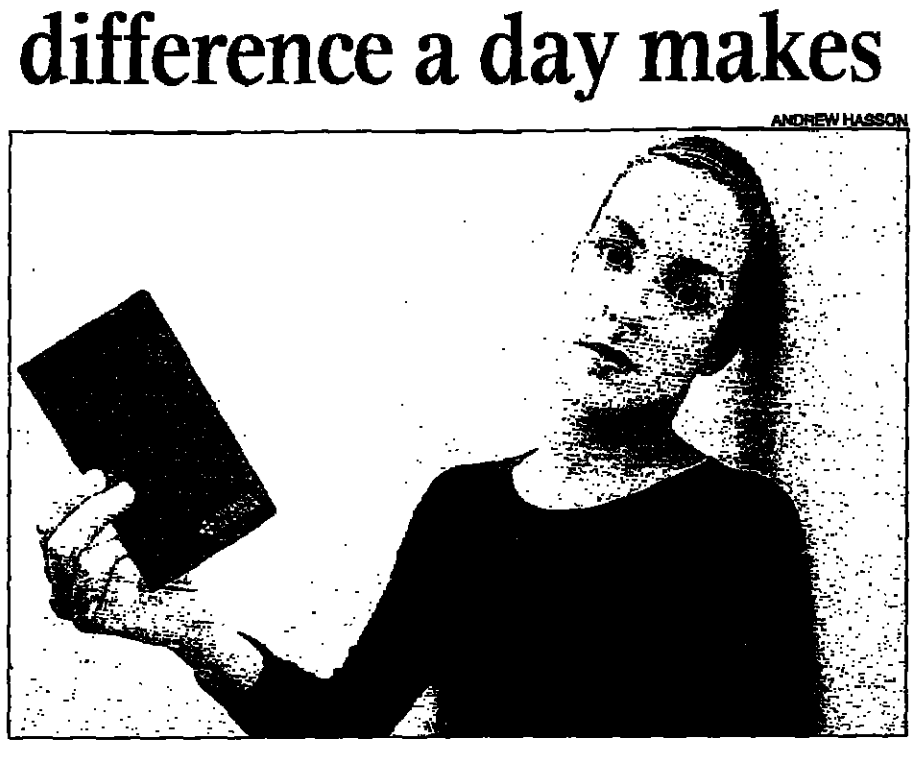
*Estimated annual gross income calculated on 30.10.96. Redemption yield is 7.4%. All yields are estimated and not guaranteed. The value of units and income from them may go down as well as up and an investor may not get back the amount invested. Tax assumptions may be subject to future statutory change and the value of tax savings and eligibility to invest in a PEP will depend on individual circumstances. Fidelity unit trusts are managed by Fidelity Investment Services Limited. Fidelity PEPs are offered by Fidelity Investments Limited. Issued by Fidelity Investments Limited, regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority. 'Other than the effect of the bid offer spread. **Resources and assets include those of FMR Corp., a US company and affiliate (as at 30.9.96). Fidelity only provides information about its products and will not give investment advice based on individual circumstances. TMJ8

For those who would like independent financial advice, Fidelity products are also available through Independent Financial Advisers.

What a difference a day makes



ANDREW HASSON

Jane Beer, *pictured*, a *Times* reader from Hove, will be deprived of her £1,000-worth of free shares in the Alliance & Leicester flotation because she unwittingly allowed her account to fall below the crucial £100 on October 14.

To the dismay of many like Miss Beer, this all-important qualifying date was announced retrospectively. Although the society had emphasised that accounts needed to be replenished 56 days before the special general meeting to approve the society's conversion plans, this date was also a well kept secret.

Miss Beer, an English teacher, opened her account in September 1995 on her return from working abroad. The balance had never fallen below £100 until that day.

She said: "On the morning of October 11, I had £347.36 in the account and at midday I withdrew my rent, leaving a balance of £87.36, just £12.64 short of the amount required. On calling the Alliance & Leicester hotline to check whether I was still eligible for shares, since I did have funds well over £100 up to and on October 14, I was told that unfortunately I was not eligible since I required £100 at midnight on that date and that 'it was like the lottery' and unfortunately I had lost out."

As a result of the society's decision to make October 14 the qualifying date, Miss Beer now stands to receive only the statutory cash bonus of 11 per cent of her balance — £9.61. The A&L said: "We are sorry to disappoint a member but we have made it clear since we announced our conversion in February that savers needed to keep their accounts at the £100 level to qualify for free shares. We were not permitted to announce the October 14 date in advance."

Flexible loans point way for mortgages

LEGAL & GENERAL has brought out a simple, flexible mortgage that could become the blueprint for home loans in the future – and might do so, if building societies stop behaving like kamikaze pilots in their battle for new business and stand still long enough to watch what the opposition is doing.

The loan is a straightforward, variable-rate mortgage with the rate set at a competitive 6.24%*, and a guarantee that it will never be more than 1.5 points above bank base rate. The loan is set up on an interest-only basis, and any of the usual savings vehicles such as endowments, Peps or pension, may be used to pay it off.

So far, no different, though it is pleasing to see that the loan has absolutely no strings in the shape of requirements to take Legal & General's own insurance policies or Peps, nor any early-redemption penalties. However, what makes the loan different is the flexibility offered over repayments of capital.

Borrowers can pay off lump sums at any time without penalty, or pay extra sums each month at any time (subject to a minimum of £50). An immediate adjustment will be made to the interest owing on the reduced debt. Further, the extra amounts repaid in this way can be placed into an "available reserve" which can then be borrowed back by the homebuyer at any time, for any purpose.

The cost of this later borrowing will be the same as the rest of the mortgage. The only limitation is that the loan must remain at a minimum £30,000, otherwise there would be Miras complications.

Such a scheme has two clear advantages. Many mortgage advisers say that borrowers are still reluctant to take on shorter-term mortgages because they are unsure at the outset how they will be able to manage with the new loan, especially when they have the additional costs of furnishing a new property.

But a year or two later, once things have settled down, they may well realise they could, indeed, afford higher sums, and thus shorten the overall term. Earlier "accelerated repayment" schemes have required a commitment from the borrower from the start, and consequently have not attracted many takers.

The second advantage, while not unique, shows up once again how building societies are behind the times: the fact that interest on small repayments is adjusted immediately rather than at the end of the lender's financial year.

And finally, for those who want to save ahead for some planned future expenditure, making use of the available reserve feature is a very tax-efficient means.

Article written by Diana Wright.
Reproduced from *THE SUNDAY TIMES*, 22 OCTOBER 1995
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*the mortgage rate has been adjusted from 6.59% since first publication.

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More and more people are realising that flexible mortgages are an excellent way of getting more from a mortgage. We are determined to make sure that our Flexible Reserve mortgage is the very best available of its kind. So, apart from all the good news in the above press cutting, it's worth pointing out that Flexible Reserve also features:

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Please quote ref: FA TM 01. Lines open 9am-7pm Monday to Friday, 9am to 1pm Saturday and 10am to 2pm Sunday. Flexible Reserve is available for loans up to 95% of the property value. If you qualify for Flexible Reserve, ask for a quotation within the next 10 days and we'll send you a free guide that will help you cut through the mortgage maze. The terms of this offer may be repeated in the future, but cannot be guaranteed.

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All mortgages are subject to underwriting, status and are not available for persons under the age of 18. A first charge will be taken over your property and a suitable life policy is required for which a premium will be payable. A written quotation is available on request. For loans in excess of 75% of the purchase price or mortgage valuation (whichever is the lower) a maximum advance fee is payable. Flexible Reserve example: assuming a standard variable rate of 6.24% throughout the term of the mortgage APR 6.5% (variable) based on a £70,000 endowment mortgage over 25 years, on a property valued at £100,000. Monthly payments £349.60 net of MIRAS. Total amount payable £179,615 includes 300 monthly mortgage payments (endowment payments not included). Example excludes any redemption penalties payable to a previous lender and assumes that no stamp duty is payable. For the purpose of this example it is assumed legal fees and other related expenses will be £400 and MIRAS is available at 15% on the full £30,000 entitlement. Mortgage life cover and acceptable buildings insurance will be required but premiums are not included in the APR calculation. Example assumes that no Flexible Reserve Payments have been made and that no borrowing from the Available Reserve has occurred during the mortgage term. Flexible Reserve facility not available for mortgage balances below £30,000. Minimum initial loan £45,000. Maximum loan 95% of mortgage valuation for a purchase, 95% for a remortgage at the same level and up to 90% if raising additional capital. Maximum loan £250,000. Representative only of the Legal & General marketing group, members of which are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO for the purposes of recommending, advising on and selling life assurance and investment products bearing Legal & General's name. Mortgages are provided by Legal & General Mortgage Services Ltd. of Fairmount House, Bull Hill, Leatherhead KT22 7AT. Legal & General Assurance Society Ltd. Registered in England No. 166055. Registered Office Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4TP

Anne Ashworth, Sara McConnell and **Caroline Merrell** continue the campaign for fairer deals over society flotations

Societies shamed

There is increasing pressure to force building societies to recognise the rights of their disabled savers who stand to lose out in the New Year's lucrative building society flotations. In the latest move in the increasingly acrimonious dispute, Angela Knight, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, the minister responsible for building societies, this week attacked the industry for "hiding behind the law".

In a scandal first revealed by *The Times*, vulnerable handicapped people whose financial affairs are handled by relations or carers will not receive bonuses because they are the second named holder of a building society account. Building society rules permit cash or share windfalls to be given only to the first named.

Further complications arise when carers or relations have their own accounts with the same society. The proposed bonuses from the Halifax and the Alliance & Leicester are member based. As each member only has the right to one vote, he or she only has the right to one bonus. Carers therefore have to choose whether to take the bonus on their own accounts or those of their charges.

Mrs Knight called on societies to use the power in the existing Act to make sure that underlying beneficiaries were not disadvantaged in cash and share distributions. Meanwhile, Tom Clarke, Labour Party spokesman for the disabled, this week demanded action from ministers to outlaw potential discrimination against disabled people excluded from building society bonus payouts. In Parliamentary questions to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and to Peter Lilley, Secretary of State for Social Security, Mr Clarke asked what would be done to make sure disabled people were not disadvantaged.

SOCIETY WATCH

He also sought assurances that disabled building society savers would be protected under the Disability Discrimination Act, which becomes law next month. Alistair Burt, Minister for Social Security and Disabled People has already suggested in a letter to Mr Clarke that some building society payout schemes could fall foul of the forthcoming Act. The call for action was given added urgency after the Alliance & Leicester's announcement last week that members would be asked to vote to approve the society's conversion to a bank on December 10. The A&L says it has no plans to change the structure of its proposed bonus scheme to allow disabled people to receive payouts expected to average £1,000. Members of the Halifax will be asked to approve their society's conversion at a special meeting in February. This would not have arisen in the Cheltenham & Gloucester payout where bonuses were based on the number of accounts.

Disabled people cannot risk changing accounts carrying *the names of hostel or hospital* staff who have moved on, because *this would break their* continuity of membership.

Tom Clarke says: "This is a very worrying situation. Disabled people who have invested their savings over a number of years in good faith could lose out through no fault of their own. I am disappointed that both the A&L and the Halifax appear to be ready to ignore the interests of many of their disabled customers. With the timetables for the flotations now being set, the need to find a solution is becoming ever more urgent".

Building societies deny they are discriminating against disabled people. The A&L says that the first named member rule excludes other groups, including children, from bonuses. *Trustees, carers or other* first named members have a duty to pass on any bonuses to the disabled member, the society says. It also claims that there is nothing to stop a disabled person being the first named on the account with the carer as second named, although it conceded that savers would have to ask specifically for this arrangement.

But it is up to building societies themselves to decide how to structure bonuses. Under the Building Societies Act, which governs the conversion process, the only payment societies have to make is the statutory cash bonus to savers with no vote. If they pay bonuses, these must be paid to the first named on the account.

Free-shares row deepens

SUSANNAH BINNEY

Patrick Mountain has set up an action group to try to get the society to change its mind

The Alliance & Leicester Building Society has decided to give the majority of its members 250 shares, regardless of the amount they have saved, *in the interests of* equality or, perhaps, expediency — *the A&L will be the first* to the market. Other members, including "carpetbaggers" who opened an account after the end of last year, will benefit from a cash payout.

The decision has antagonised a small but vociferous collection of members who have large amounts saved with the society. One, Patrick Mountain, a retired former A&L agent, has set up *an action group to try to get* the society to change its mind about the share distribution.

He feels he was misadvised about his savings at the beginning of the year, just after the announcement of the proposed conversion. Mr Mountain has close to £150,000 invested with the society. At the beginning of this year, he was told categorically that he could jeopardise his bonus by *switching funds. At this time,* the society also reduced its interest rates. Mr Mountain said: "I wanted to transfer the money to a high income bond which paid a higher rate of interest. I have lost thousands because of what the Alliance & Leicester has done." He said he has had dozens of calls from other aggrieved members of the society.

They are unhappy about the cash bonus, which is to be distributed to those who joined the society after December 31, 1995, or those who failed to top their accounts up to £100 on October 14. The cash bonus is expected to be about 11 per cent of the qualifying balance.

The A&L said: "We acknowledge that some of our members may wish we had chosen a different route, but to do so would have disadvantaged the majority of members."

Patrick Mountain can be contacted on (01458) 274391.

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امكنا من الاجل

Knight proves a champion of the people

COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH

Personal Finance Editor

Everybody needs somebody sometime. Savers whose interests are often forgotten are no exception.

They have now found an ally in Angela Knight MP, the Economic Secretary to the Treasury. Although responsible for building societies, Mrs Knight seems determined not to be conciliatory to her bumptious charges.

This week she has shown herself admirably unwilling to bend to demands from societies that would have put savers at a disadvantage.

For example, she has decided not to tighten up the "two-year rule" which is designed to prevent those investors of less than two years' standing from receiving a conversion or merger cash bonus. Some societies are anxious to see this easy-to-breach rule made unassailable to prevent speculators from storming their doors in the hope of a swift profit.

The pragmatic Mrs Knight, however, is obviously of the view that opening an account in the hope of a windfall is hardly a crime. This means that those societies becoming banks can continue to offer shares to newcomers in place of cash.

She has also rejected another customer-unfriendly ordinance put forward by a number of societies. The amended Building Societies Bill proposes to make every new account a share account, with voting rights. With a vote comes the valuable entitlement to a bonus. Some societies had asked for powers to replace share accounts with non-voting deposit accounts if they were besieged by carpetbaggers.

Mrs Knight believes that societies already have enough ways to protect themselves from the opportunist hordes, without disenfranchising investors. Building societies may deplore the publication of takeover and conversion rumours and the ensuing inflow of funds. But their own behaviour ensures that these reports will continue. Every society now becoming a bank or the subsidiary of a bank has previously hand on heart pledged its commitment to mutuality. As a result, denials carry little conviction.

For one group of vulnerable savers, Mrs Knight has already proved a much-needed champion. Through a technicality, thousands of disabled people are being excluded from next year's flotations (see page 32). The minister has accused the societies of "hiding behind the law". They should now emerge from behind this defence and use the law to find ways to give these most deserving of customers their rightful due. Or risk the displeasure of the Economic Secretary.

Ray of hope

NANCY MITFORD believed that "abroad was unutterably bloody and all foreigners fiends".

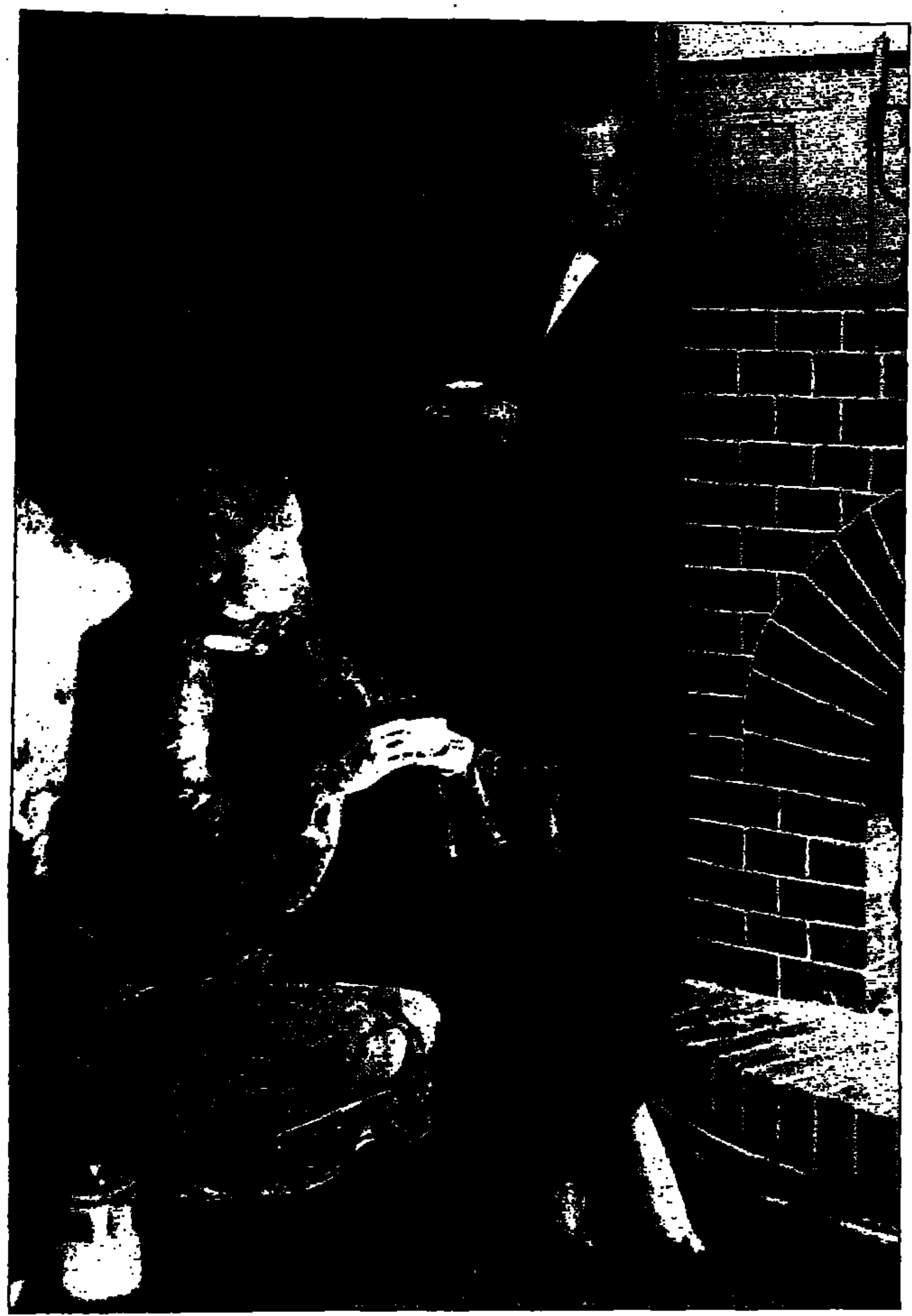
Today's holidaymaker is as likely to encounter rogues before he takes his seat on the Gatwick Express. They will have been lurking at his travel agency, offering him a discount on his trip, provided that he bought an expensive and inadequate travel insurance policy. Amid the chat on July sunshine hours in the Algarve, there was, of course, no mention that the cut price deal was funded by the 40 per cent commission earned by the tour operator from the insurer.

Finally, however, these cosy arrangements are to be investigated by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The body's aim should be to ensure that consumers are sold suitable holiday cover, obliging agents and operators to make explicit the policy's exclusion clauses and disclose any commission they have pocketed.

Tourists should also be reassured that the courts are demanding higher standards from credit card companies, another business that prospers greatly from the travel trade. Card companies have always denied that their customers enjoyed the protection of the Consumer Credit Act when they ventured overseas. Now, however, the Court of Appeal has ruled that a couple who were the victims of a foreign timeshare failure can sue for compensation (see page 35).

People pay a high price for the privilege of carrying a credit card. They are entitled to all the safeguards of the law, wherever they sign a voucher.

Call for less tax on family values



The way we were: before married couples were penalised by a succession of Chancellors

Christian Action Research & Education (Care) has launched a campaign to try to increase tax breaks for married couples. It believes that the Government should back its commitment to family values by making it more financially advantageous for couples to marry and remain married. The campaign is being spearheaded by Michael Alison, the Conservative MP for Selby. Mr Alison and Care want Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, to increase the married couples' allowance substantially from its current level of £1,790 in the Budget.

Mr Alison said: "If he does not increase it sufficiently, then I may introduce an early day motion after the Budget, but before the committee stage of the Finance Bill, to try to get it increased." Such an early day motion could have good chance of success, because all parties are anxious to show their commitment to the concept of family values. A report commissioned by Care found that tax for married couples, as a percentage of income, had risen 250 per cent, whereas tax for single people had only increased 23 per cent over the past 30 years. The report — *The Taxation of Married Couples* — was written by Leonard Beighton and Don Draper, both tax consultants.

It also found that since 1990, the value of tax allowances has been reduced by £9 for married couples where one person was earning a wage, and the value of tax allowances has been increased by £152 for a single person. The report also pointed out that couples with children made up 46 per cent of the bottom 10 per cent income group.

CAROLINE MERRELL

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And that share can be quite dramatic.

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Clerical Medical	BAA
General Accident	BAA
Norwich Union	BAA
Sun Alliance	A+AB
Two Cs and a B or below	
Axa Equity & Law	C-C-C-
Colonial	CBC
Sun Life	CCB

Based on £100 per month personal pension for man aged 30 next birthday using PIA projection rules.

Past performance

Two As and a B or above	
Eagle Star	AA+A
Equitable Life	A+AA
Royal London	BAA
Wesleyan Assurance	AAB
Two Cs and a B or below	
Britannia Life	CCC-
Legal & General	CBC
NPI	BCC
Royal Insurance	CCC-
Sun Alliance	CCC

Based on £30 per month personal pension or s226 plan taken out six months before 50th birthday.
Source KPMG

Reprinted from Money Marketing, 23 May 1996

VALUE FOR MONEY

A+A+A+

The Office of Fair Trading recently recommended a method by which financial plans, such as personal pensions, can be rated. That system of rating was used by consultants KPMG to assess the charges of various companies' personal pension plans and the results as Published in Money Marketing May 1996.

The Equitable's with-profits Personal Pension Plan was the only one to be given the highest possible rating of A+A+A+ for its low charging plan.

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INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

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The same Office of Fair Trading rating system was applied by KPMG to the past performance of different companies' with-profits plans. Again The Equitable scored highly with an A+AA rating.

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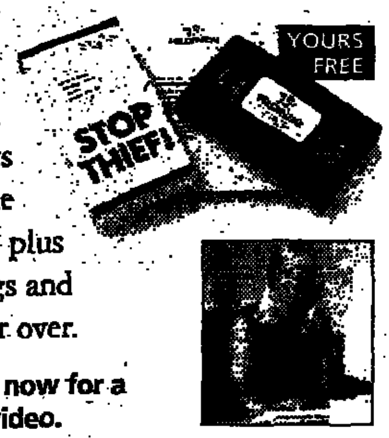

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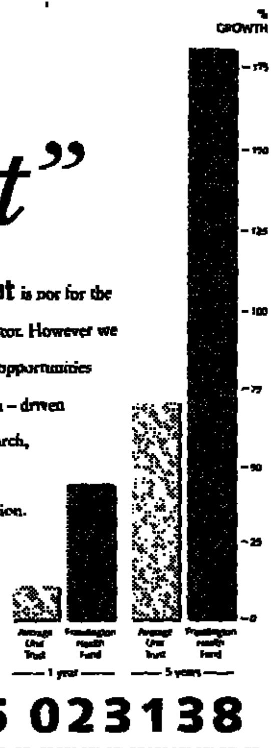

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Adam Jones on the increasing interest in traded endowments

Teps aim to be tops in the used market

Investors looking for endowment policies on the second-hand market are set to have two new alternatives to buying through a market-maker or at auction.

Barclays Global Investors is launching a new offshore fund investing in traded endowment policies (Teps), buying policies issued by a range of life insurers. Kleinwort Benson is also planning another UK-based fund which could try to undercut its rival through cheaper management charges.

The investment houses are keen to capitalise on the increased interest in Teps, fuelled in part by speculation about mergers, takeovers and demutualisation in the insurance industry.

These industry changes, such as Norwich Union's proposed move to plc status, can be a catalyst for windfall payments — a handy boost for the performance of funds which hold eligible policies (but perhaps also a distraction from the underlying performance of the life office's investment managers, which is far more important).

Kleinwort Benson was the first to set up a Tep investment trust in 1992. The share price of the Kleinwort Endowment Policy Trust has risen from 100p to about 162p, narrowly underperforming the FT-SE All-Share index since its inception. This represents a premium of about 8.6 per cent to net asset value. The trust is due to be wound up in 2003.

Kleinwort's Second Endowment Policy Trust, launched in 1993, attracted more private investors than its predecessor. It has performed better, too, with the share price rising from 100p to about 141½p, appreciably better than the FT-SE All-Share. Again, it is trading at a premium — about 10.3 per cent. The trust is due to be wound up in 2006.

A third fund is still at the planning stage with its new investment trust. It may be set up as an extension to the second fund, saving on initial costs. It is likely to run for about 12 years.

Stephen Westwood, a director of the two existing trusts, said: "We're looking to launch towards the end of this year."

Mr Westwood says it would not be specifically targeting life offices likely to convert — the strategy of the investment trust set up by Scottish Value Management (dubbed Loot, for Life Offices Opportunities Trust).

He says the Tep market offers real assets for long-term growth, with the opportunity of buying them at a discount. Investors are also attracted by the smoothing techniques employed by with-profit fund managers, which even out the effect of good and bad years to provide a steadier performance.

The rival, Jersey-based fund being launched by Barclays Global Investors, the new name for the asset management arm of Barclays, which previousy went under the BZW banner, will be wound up in 2009. All the assets will be shared out through five special capital payments during the last five years of the trust's life. The aim is to minimise capital gains tax.

Shares will be sold on a partly paid basis, with investors paying half initially and half nine months later. The reason for these split payments is that it takes time to build up a suitable portfolio.

The aim is to raise £20 million and the projected starting yield based on this figure is likely to be a little more than 11 per cent, after annual management costs, which will run at 1.3 per cent. There will also be additional charges of 2 per cent at the start.

The first BZW Tep trust was launched in 1993. It had a 12-year lifespan and is designed to pay out between 2001 and 2005. Since launch, the share price has risen from 100p to about 142p, better than the FT-SE All-Share.

Like the Kleinwort funds, it is trading at a premium. But these favourable ratings signal a possible problem for existing Tep fund investors. With two new issues, demand for the existing trusts may be hit.

As a result, it may be a good time to sell, says Graham Hooper of Chase de Vere.

VESTRON PICTURES

Shareout: Phil Collins had no trouble with second-hand funds in the hit film *Buster*

Battle on pensions front

On the eve of Remembrance Sunday, a campaign to help many former servicemen and women to get better pensions is gathering momentum.

Next month the Select Committee on Social Security will hear representations from expatriate groups of pensioners in Australia, Canada and South Africa, about their frozen state pensions.

Nearly half a million pensioners round the world in 137 different countries have state pension benefits which are frozen at the level paid on the first date of payment, or when the individual took up residence. However, a further 325,000 pensioners living in 37 other countries enjoy state pensions which are increased in the same way as pensions for UK residents. Those campaigning on behalf of the pensioners point out that this iniquitous system creates unnecessary hardship.

They highlight the case of an RAF mobile radio operator, who took part in the liberation of France, Belgium and Holland. His UK pension, accrued over 50 years, would now be worth 53 per cent more had he not moved to Canada in 1987.

Another case of hardship is a couple in their seventies living in Canada who helped to build Lancaster bombers during the Second World War — they live on British pensions frozen at £59 per week since 1987.

The British Expatriate Pensioners (BEPs) group disputes the British Government's claim that it cannot afford to pay uprated pensions. The Government's figures show that uprating the pensions would cost only around £235 million, which compares with a total social security bill of £30 billion. The campaigners say: "BEPs by definition are saving the Government the cost of healthcare and social costs related to the elderly. The healthcare costs alone of senior citizens are estimated to be three and half times the average citizen's health costs.

"It is estimated that BEPs' absence from the system saves the NHS well in excess of £350 million. If BEPs all returned to the UK, it could cost the Government £600 million."

CAROLINE MERRELL

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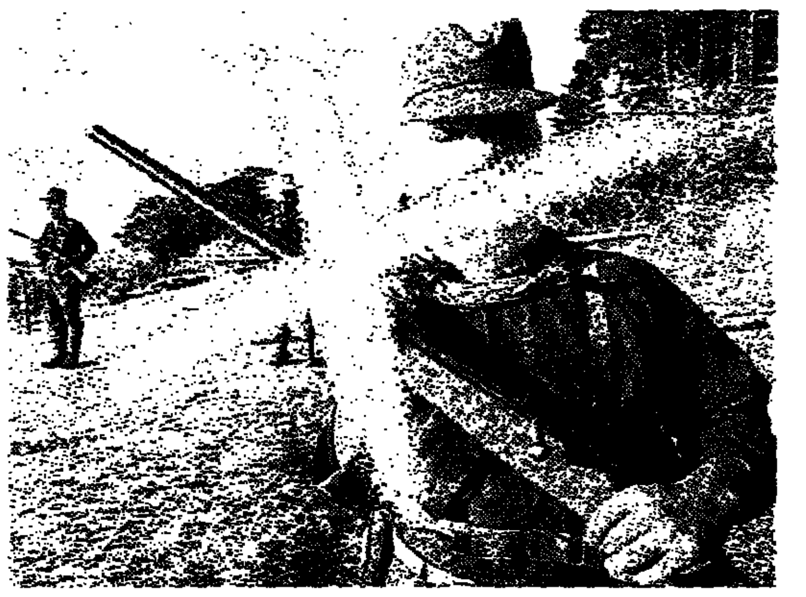

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اصكنا من الأصل

Take a gamble on the pound

Moaning that the pound does not go as far as it used to overseas — in spite of recent sterling strength — is a ritual for many after an expensive holiday. Few realise that within this annual inconvenience lie investment opportunities. True, trying to anticipate currency movements is risky even for hardened currency speculators.

But that does not stop the mind playing the investment equivalent of Fantasy Football. What if a dollar bank account had been opened in 1939, leaving me perfectly placed to clean up on its subsequent tripling in value against the pound?

Maurice Jay, a London reader of *The Times*, first visited Switzerland in the early 1950s. He has since witnessed one of sterling's biggest exchange rate slides: from 12 Swiss francs to the pound on his maiden trip to just two last week, a 600 per cent fall. Mr Jay wonders whether it would make sense to open a Swiss franc account now. Apart from repeating the warning that past performance does not guarantee future rewards, it is worth looking at the ways UK residents can open foreign currency accounts.

You do not have to approach a foreign bank to open an account in another currency; UK banks will do the job. You can choose an interest-bearing option. Chequebooks, overdrafts and even loans are available in the chosen currency, too, although borrowing is very dangerous as you are raising your vulnerability to exchange-rate changes through gearing (betting with money you don't have).

NatWest, for instance, is paying a top fixed rate of 5.125 per cent on 12-month dollar deposits of $100,000 or more. The rates for marks vary from 0.125 to 2.5 per cent, reflecting the lower interest rates in Germany. Unlike sterling current accounts, you are likely to pay charges every time you make a deposit or withdrawal.

Investors can also get exposure through offshore cash deposit funds. Rothschild Asset Management, for instance, has a big operation based in Guernsey, managing the equivalent of £700 million of non-sterling currency under the Five Arrows brand.

In its basic deposit fund, customers have the option of holding one of 18 currencies, soon to be expanded to 21. The currency of your choice is then invested in bank deposits with a triple-A credit rating. Interest can be paid out or reinvested for greater capital growth and potential tax-deferral advantages. An annual 0.5 per cent management fee is deducted before interest is calculated.

Those unfamiliar with offshore investment must note that these funds will not be regulated by the Financial Services Act 1986 or the Investors Compensation Scheme, the basic risk cannot be overstated. One final innovation open to people holding life assurance and critical illness policies is worth mentioning. If you go through an offshore-based insurer, it is possible to pay your premium in sterling but nominate the sum assured in another currency. Scottish Amicable European, the insurer's Dublin arm, runs such a scheme.

But Clive Scott-Hopkins, of Towry Law, the financial adviser, gave warning that if exchange rates move unfavourably, you or your relatives may end up with much less than you thought. If you had taken out the life assurance policy to cover a known inheritance tax bill of £100,000, for instance, it could pay out much less, leaving a shortfall. He emphasised that currency speculation is not for the average person: "You can get it so wrong."

ADAM JONES

Sara McConnell on paying by card abroad after a court ruling on timeshare

How credit rights travel

This week, the Court of Appeal ruled that Trevor and Elizabeth Jarrett, a couple who had been victims of a Portuguese timeshare failure, could seek compensation in the UK courts from Barclaycard and Royal Bank of Scotland, which had lent them the money to buy the timeshare.

So where does the court ruling leave you when you buy goods abroad on credit? We give the answers.

Q What happens in the UK if there are problems?

A If you pay for goods or services on credit, either by credit card or with a credit agreement, you are covered by the Consumer Credit Act 1974. Under this, credit providers are jointly liable with suppliers to compensate you if things go wrong and, for any reason, you do not get what you paid for. You can claim for goods broken in transit or goods that were misrepresented to you, for example. In practice, if a supplier collapses, you will be way down the list of creditors. Paying by credit card is an important safeguard against financial loss.

Q Then how much am I allowed to claim?

A You can claim sums from £100 to £30,000.

Q What is different about using credit cards abroad? Can I not claim as in the UK?

A It depends who you talk to. The Director-General of Fair Trading thinks you should be able to. However, the banks have long argued that they have no liability for overseas transactions. The Consumer Credit Act is ambiguous on the point. Last year banks voluntarily agreed with the Office of Fair Trading that they would meet claims dating from after May 15, 1995. As part of this agreement, you can claim between £100 and £15,000, but you can only claim the credit element of a transaction. So, if you pay a deposit with your card and pay the rest by cheque, you can claim back only the amount of the deposit.

The agreement is to be reviewed at the end of next month, but the Department of Trade and Industry says it has no plan to change the law.

Q So is this why the Jarretts had to sue Barclaycard and Royal Bank?

A Yes. Both banks argue that they have no liability for overseas transactions before May 1995. As the Jarretts bought their timeshare in 1990, they will have to fight for compensation. However, the Court of Appeal case was more complicated than that, with implications for thousands of timeshare victims.

Q In what way was it more complicated?

A Royal Bank tried to argue that timeshare purchases were tenancy agreements, not credit agreements. This would have meant that, under the Brussels convention, the claim would have had to be dealt with in the courts of the host country, in this case Portugal. Apart from the difficulties of language and using a different legal system, claiming against a collapsed Portuguese timeshare developer would almost certainly have achieved nothing. Royal Bank's argument was initially accepted by the lower courts in the UK, which decided that they had no jurisdiction, but the appeal court overturned that decision.

Q So, will thousands of people who have lost money in timeshares be compensated?

A Possibly. The Jarretts' solicitors think that this will be so. However, unless victims' transactions took place after May 1995, they will have to fight credit providers in the UK courts.

DUNCAN ATKINSON

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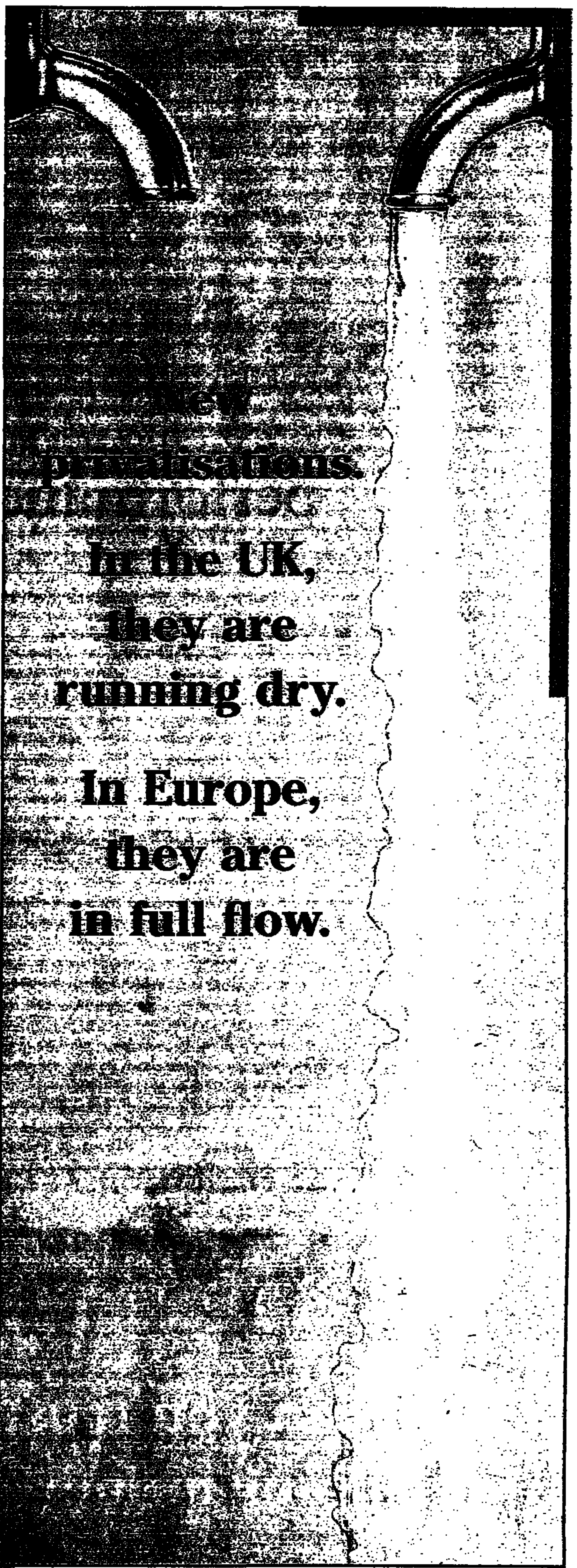

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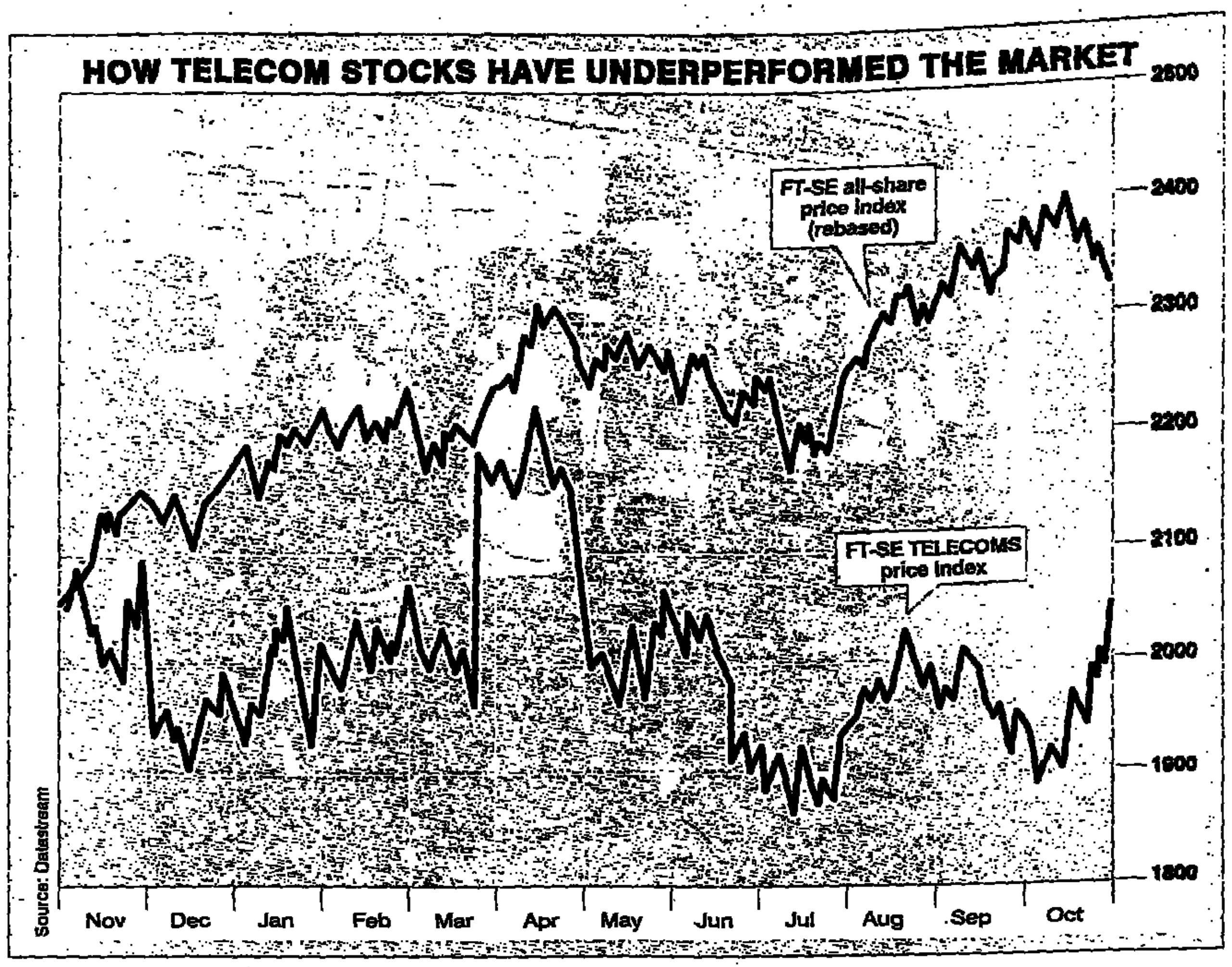


Source: Datastream

Matthew Wall on the repercussions of the merger with MCI

Sector ringing over BT

SECTOR IN FOCUS

British Telecom's proposed £13 billion merger with MCI, the US telecoms group, has set the whole sector alight this week.

BT investors are in for a £2.3 billion windfall dividend next year, worth 35p a share, if the deal goes through and analysts have been upgrading their share price forecasts as a result. The combined company, Concert, would become the fourth-largest telecoms company in the world by sales.

Regulatory uncertainty surrounds the BT/MCI deal, however. AT&T is complaining to both US and UK regulators that the deal would give an unfair advantage to BT, arguing that the UK market is still not as open to competition as the US market, despite more than a decade of privatisation and liberalisation. BT still has about 90 per cent share of the UK telephony market.

Although such regulatory uncertainty muddies the waters for investors, John Karidis, telecoms analyst at James Capel, still believes BT is a firm buy. He says: "Although the share price has risen this week, it still does not fully take into account the 35p special dividend or the potential for enhanced earnings."

ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker, says the MCI deal should increase earnings growth from 5 per cent a year to at least 10 per cent. BT has already said that it should be able to increase its dividend by 6.1 per cent because of the deal, compared with 5.6 per cent in recent years. A proposed share buyback of up to 10 per cent of its shares once the deal has gone through is also designed to keep shareholders sweet.

Meanwhile the market has been rife with takeover speculation as the City expects defensive counter-measures from BT's rivals. For example, AT&T of the US, the second largest telecoms company in the world, has been tipped as a potential predator for Vodafone, the UK's largest mobile phone operator valued at £7.5 billion.

Vodafone may have stakes in other European telecoms companies such as E-Plus of Germany and SFR of France, but it still lacks a big international partner. And it is the only company in the UK telecoms sector not to have announced a deal recently. Analysts reckon it is worth a punt.

Overall, the telecoms sector has underperformed the FT-SE All-share index by a hefty 12 per cent over the last year. And a month ago, before takeover fever gripped the sector, pushing share prices up, the year-on-year figure was a massive 21 per cent.

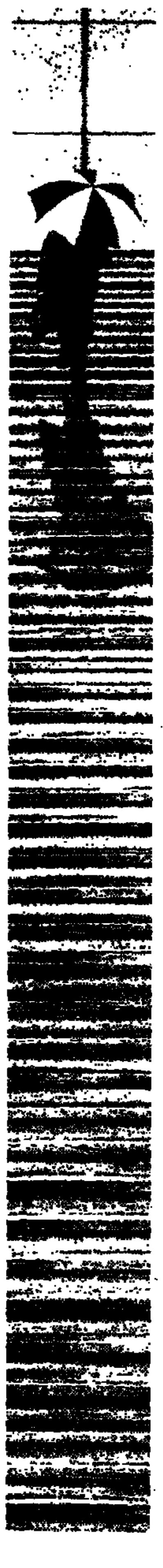
Companies are facing downward pressure on profit margins as newcomers such as Orange, the mobile phone operator, inject more competition. And cable companies are merging to cut costs in the face of BT's seemingly impregnable monopoly in the domestic telephone market.

Mercury, owned by Cable and Wireless, and three cable companies, Nynex CableComms, Bell Cablemedia and Videotron, are merging to form Cable & Wireless Communications, the largest cable company in the UK with six million homes in its monopoly franchise area. It will be listed on the London and New York Stock Exchanges next year and analysts are at odds over its prospects.

The sector is also pretty volatile. Orange made a spectacular start, its share price reaching 253p in June, but it then collapsed to 174p in August, recovering slightly to around 180p.

TeleWest, the UK cable subsidiary of US West, the US telecoms company, reached a high of 188.5p in May only to fall back to 118p in October. It is now hovering around the 134p mark.

Apart from one or two stocks, investors should treat the sector with extreme caution.



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Caroline Merrell on the strengths and weaknesses of an investment product

Bond may be a security risk

Gentlemen prefer bonds — but should they? Many of the leading building societies and banks have begun to offer equity bonds that appear to give great returns. Are they a good bet?

Some of these bonds will offer investors guaranteed or partially guaranteed returns, and a return of capital, while others have a return linked to investment performance.

Thousands of investors have billions of pounds invested in equity bonds, attracted by the promise of the guarantee, or by the promise of high ostensibly tax-free income.

The Personal Investment Authority, the retail regulator, is currently reviewing the marketing of these products, because it is concerned that some investors do not understand the nature of the guarantee. A PIA spokesman said: "We have to ensure that investors understand exactly what they are buying."

These products do not offer the same degree of security as investing in building society savings accounts, although many are sold by societies.

Although you will usually get your initial capital investment back if the stock market falls, you risk losing the interest you could have earned if you had left your money in a normal interest-paying deposit account.

The tax treatment of equity bonds will also vary, depending on how the bonds themselves are underwritten. Many are offered by life insurance companies via the bank or building society branches, which means they come under the rules for life insurance taxation. For example, Nationwide Building Society offers the Guaranteed Equity Bond.

This fund, which has a minimum investment of £2,000, will give returns linked to the performance of the FT-SE 100 index over five years or more. If the index falls, the society will return the original capital.

Investors in the bond will not be liable for lower or basic rate income tax on the plan, nor will they be liable for capital gains tax when the plan is cashed in. This is because the fund itself has already been taxed. Higher-rate taxpayers could find that they are liable for tax on the bond when it is cashed in.

In effect, higher-rate taxpayers are deferring their tax liability. This could be advantageous for an investor who changes from being a higher-rate taxpayer to a lower-rate taxpayer during the life of the bond. Bonds which come under life insurance taxation rules in this way have fallen out of favour with many financial advisers.

The cut in tax on building society deposits for basic rate taxpayers to 20 per cent has decreased the attractiveness of bonds. Many advisers favour personal equity plans (Peps) which can offer high levels of tax-free income and tax-free capital growth.

The Halifax offers an investment bond via Halifax Life, which does not offer any guarantees, but which does give the investor a choice of investment strategy linked to risk.

The bond, which has been available for only a few months, has already attracted a few hundred million from Halifax customers. It has a £2,500 minimum investment and no maximum. It is possible to invest further amounts, subject to a minimum of £1,000.

There is no time limit for the investment, but the society advises that the money should be invested for at least five years to ensure the maximum returns. It is possible to make withdrawals from the bond every three, four, six or twelve months, subject to a £50 minimum. The bond invests in three funds managed by Halifax Life — these have different levels of risk, depending on the proportion invested in fixed-interest, UK, or overseas equities.

Bristol & West Building Society offers guaranteed bonds that do not come under the rules on life insurance taxation. The products on offer include the Balanced Guaranteed Equity Bond. This will pay a return equal to 100 per cent of the return in the FT-SE 100 index over five years. The capital is also guaranteed to be returned at the end of the five-year term, if the index falls. Any income withdrawn will be subject to tax in the normal way. However, unlike the insurance bond, the fund itself will not be taxed.

UNITED ARTISTS

No guarantees on returns: with women, agent 007 was never the most reliable Bond

Complex charging hits pension-seekers

There can be £18,000 difference between the dearest and cheapest group personal pensions, according to a survey published this week. Methods of charging are complicated and hard to understand, making it almost impossible to shop around for the cheapest plan, says *Pensions World*, author of the survey.

Pension providers that do not charge commission, such as Equitable Life and Professional Life, were the cheapest out of the survey of 37 large pension providers. High-chargers include Britannia Life and the Prudential.

The study assumed that a man aged 40 contributed £100 a month and retired at 65, and assumed a 9 per cent growth rate.

Group personal pensions are taken out by a group of employees with the same life company, after the employer has introduced them to a financial adviser. The employees, and sometimes the employer, make contributions to the plan, which an employee can take with him or her in the event of changing job.

In spite of the group nature of the schemes, employees can contract out of the state earnings related pension scheme on an individual basis and have National Insurance rebates paid into the scheme.

Unlike occupational pension schemes provided by the employer, group personal pensions allow employees to make withdrawals and take the pension before retirement. This is either useful flexibility or a dangerous temptation, depending on your point of view. The pensions may be cheap for employers to administer, but they are not covered by the Pensions Act and so do not have to have trustees, a trust deed, or even reports and accounts.

Group personal pensions are traditionally associated with smaller companies employing, typically, fewer than 100 people. Pension providers are, though, increasingly targeting larger companies as more and more permanent staff move to short-term contracts, making pension portability more attractive.

There is, however, concern that employees are not given enough advice when faced with a large number of funds carrying varying degrees of risk.

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Helen Pridham sets out alternatives for peace of mind in old age

Home-in on care costs

HASHIM AKIB

HEALTH INSURANCE

It is now seven months since the Government issued a consultation paper on the cost of long-term care but it has yet to reveal how it intends to help people to pay for it.

Plans to introduce "partnership schemes" are said to have been put back because of technical difficulties. In the meantime, another consultation document is to be issued, setting out how the Government intends to regulate the sale of long-term care plans to protect the public from unscrupulous salesmen.

More pensioners are now buying these plans, but Ian McNeill, business development adviser to Help the Aged, says: "Having paid National Insurance contributions for maybe 35 or 40 years, retired people feel they have already paid for the cost of this care."

The Government requires anyone with assets and investments worth more than £16,000 to cover their own costs. Partial help is available if you have between £10,000 and £16,000. Only those with less than £10,000 get assistance from their local authority.

For most elderly people their main asset is their property and about 40,000 homes are being sold each year to pay for nursing home costs. The thought of losing their home is one of their greatest concerns. With fees averaging about £17,000 per year, few can meet the cost easily. There are a number of ways of mitigating potential care bills. But they are not cheap, so do take specialist independent advice.

Pre-funded plans

Insurance can be taken out in advance that will pay benefits towards the cost of your care should you need it either in a nursing home or your own home. Benefits become payable when you become incapable of various activities of daily living which include basic functions such as the ability to wash, dress and feed yourself.

The benefits, which are tax-free, will normally continue for as long as care is required, though cheaper policies are available with limited payment periods of, say, two or three years. Premiums can be paid regularly until care, if any, is required or in the form of one-off lump sum which will cover any future need.

At PPP Lifetime, the most popular option is the single premium payment. Under both regular and single premium plans, premiums may be reviewable after, say, ten years. Other companies offering prefunded plans include Bupa, Commercial Union, Prime Health and Hambro Assured.

Investment-linked plans

These plans, which combine investment with insurance, are designed to appeal to people who are reluctant to pay premiums for something they may never need to claim. A lump sum is paid into an investment fund from which the insurer deducts monthly premiums to cover a care plan.

If care is required, the agreed benefits are initially drawn from the fund and when that is depleted, the insurance policy covers further costs. Should your financial circumstances change and you need the money in the fund, there will be a cash-in value available. If you die without having needed care then the investment can be passed on to beneficiaries.

Immediate care annuities

Those families who have not insured for care in advance may want to consider buying an annuity that will make payments for as long as care is required. Special "impared life annuities" are available that can enhance significantly income for those suffering from illnesses likely to reduce their life expectancy. Unfairly, payments from these schemes are not entirely tax-free. Providers include Commercial Union, Eagle Star and PPP Lifetime.

Capital release

The snag for most retired people is living on a fixed income. Mr McNeill would like it made easier for them to unlock their home's value.

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Pound for pound: investors will have to compare products in the financial market in order to make the right choice

Savers limited by choice

For those trying to bring a little discipline into their lives, a regular savings plan should help. Which vehicle you choose depends on how long you want to invest, how much you can put aside and how much risk you can take.

If your savings goal is less than two years or you can save only up to £20 a month, your only port of call is the building society. Of those big providers who do have a regular savings plan, Bradford & Bingley tops the table. Its Monthly Saver pays 6.5 per cent gross per annum. But you have to save the same amount — between £10 and £100 for three years — each month. And you get the full interest only if 12 consecutive payments are made in the year.

The only other large institutions that come near to the B&B rate are Bristol & West (tiered from 5.2 to 5.6 per cent), Coventry (4.5 per cent) and Nationwide (2.55 per cent with a 3.25 per cent bonus if no withdrawals are made in a year).

"If you are a small saver with no means of opening an account with a lump sum, a regular savings account is a good vehicle," says Christine Bayliss, investment editor of *MoneyFacts*. Several smaller building societies do offer monthly savings accounts — the Scarborough's Keepsafe bond pays 6.5 per cent — but most are limited to locals.

If you can save for five years but do not want to take a risk, consider a Tessa since the interest is tax-free. Co-operative (currently paying 6.25 per cent), First Direct (6.75 per cent) and Midland (6.5 per cent) allow you to invest a minimum £10 a month and the TSB (6.25 per cent) £20 a month. If you are looking at five years or more, you can move into equities through unit or investment trusts.

With both unit and investment trusts, it makes sense to put them in a Pep if you are a taxpayer and have not used your allowance elsewhere. Minimum monthly investments can be as low as £20, though most start at £40 or £50. The average regular saving per month, however, is currently £93 in an investment trust and £95 in a unit trust.

Mark Bolland, of Chamberlain De Broe, independent financial advisers, favours investment trusts because they are not complicated by commission and should be cheaper to run. He recommends Baillie Gifford, Edinburgh, Foreign & Colonial and Henderson Touche Remnant.

For unit trusts Yvonne Rose, of Diane Saunders, the independent financial advisers, suggests the Jupiter and Perpetual income funds or the Pembroke growth fund.

Providers make much of what they call "pound cost averaging" — the averaging effect of putting the same pound into units or shares each month. If the price of units falls, the pound buys more units, so the average cost will be lower than the apparent average price. So your monthly payments should smooth over any peaks and troughs in the price of units or shares.

"It's a mathematical quirk that does help spread exposure to markets," says Mr Bolland. "However it's not so wonderful that I would ever advise someone who can invest a lump sum to pay monthly instead."

For information on unit trusts telephone 0181-207 1361; for investment trusts 0171-431 5222.

SARAH JONES

MONEYFACTS REGULAR MONTHLY SAVINGS SELECTION

	Account	Rate %	Deposit Min	Deposit Max	Int paid	Notice
Brad & Bingley BS 01274 556332	Mthly Svr	6.50	£10	£100	Yly	3yr term; consecutive payments must be made. Earlier access on closure only subject to penalty.
Scarborough BS 0800 590578	Keepsafe Bond	6.50	£15	£150	Yly	2yr term; Earlier access on closure only.
Darlington BS 01325 368366	Pyramid II	6.00	£1	£100	Yly	Max term 3yrs. Earlier access on closure only. Locals only.
Dudley BS 01384 231414	Bonus Builder II	6.00	£10	£100	Yly	Max term 3yrs. Earlier access on closure only. Locals only.
Universal BS 0800 281496	Reg Saving	6.00	£10	£250	Yly	3yr term. Withdrawals on 90 day loss of interest. Locals only.
Mansfield BS 01246 202055	Reg Saver	5.50	£5	£150	Yly	2 withdrawals per annum. Locals only.
Bristol & West BS 0117 979 2222	Reg Saver	5.20†	£10	£250	Yly	Max 3yr term. Consec payments must be made. Closure during yr - interest penalty.
NatWest Bnk/Tesco 0345 929394	Clubcard Plus	5.00	£1	£5,000	Mly	Cash card; overdrft avail.
Coventry BS 01203 839333	Bonus	4.50	£1	£150	½Yly	2 withdrawals permitted per annum.
Nationwide BS 0800 302010	Bonus Svr	2.55	£20	£1,000	Yly	3.25% bonus if no w/ds pa and 11 payments made. 6 w/ds permitted pa

†=Rates tiered: £10-5.20%, £500-5.40%, £1k-5.50%, £2.5k-5.60%. All rates subject to change without notice. Please check all rates before investing. All rates are shown gross but Basic Rate Tax will be deducted from BS and Bank interest payments unless the investor has registered as a non-taxpayer.

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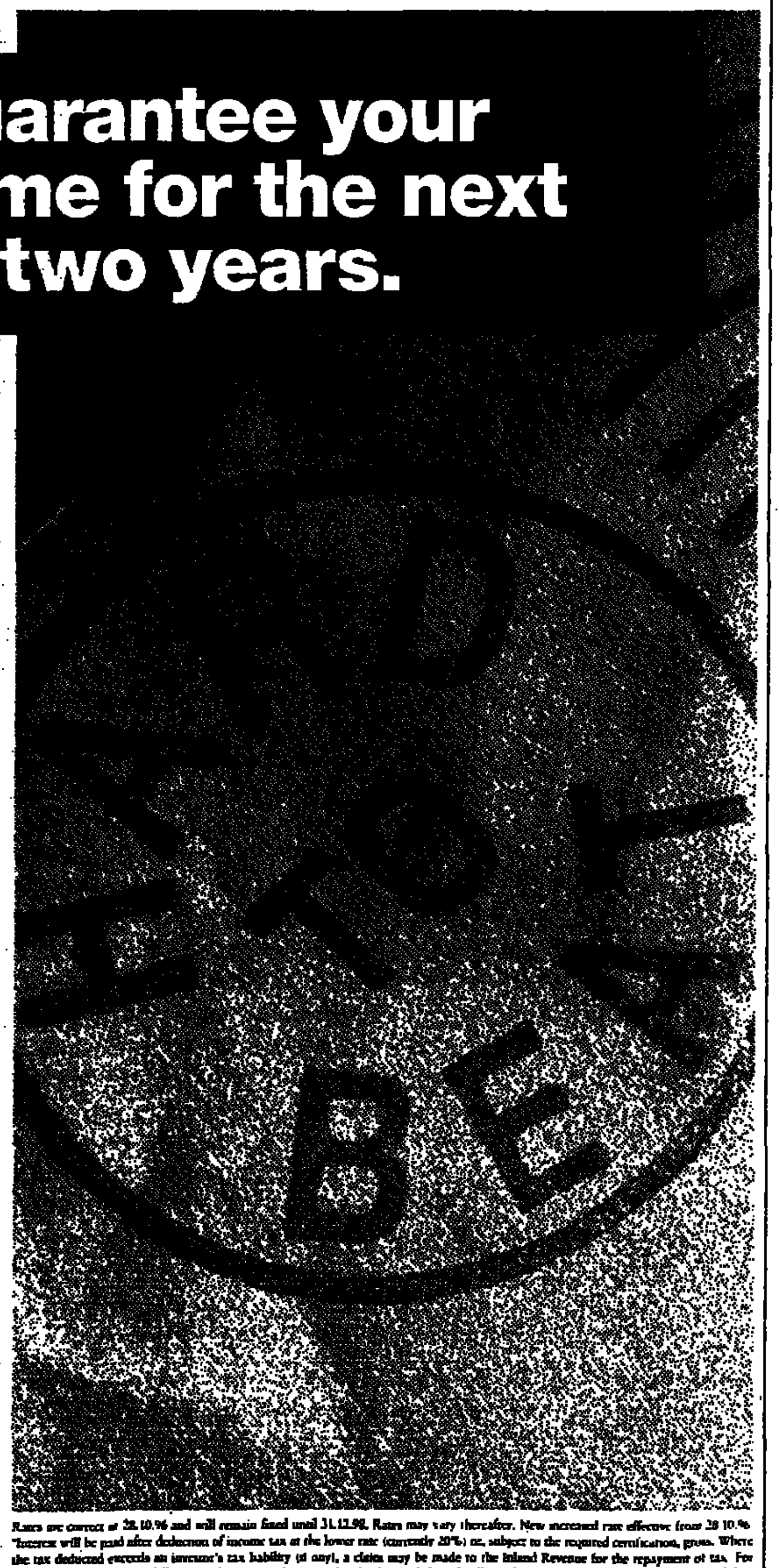

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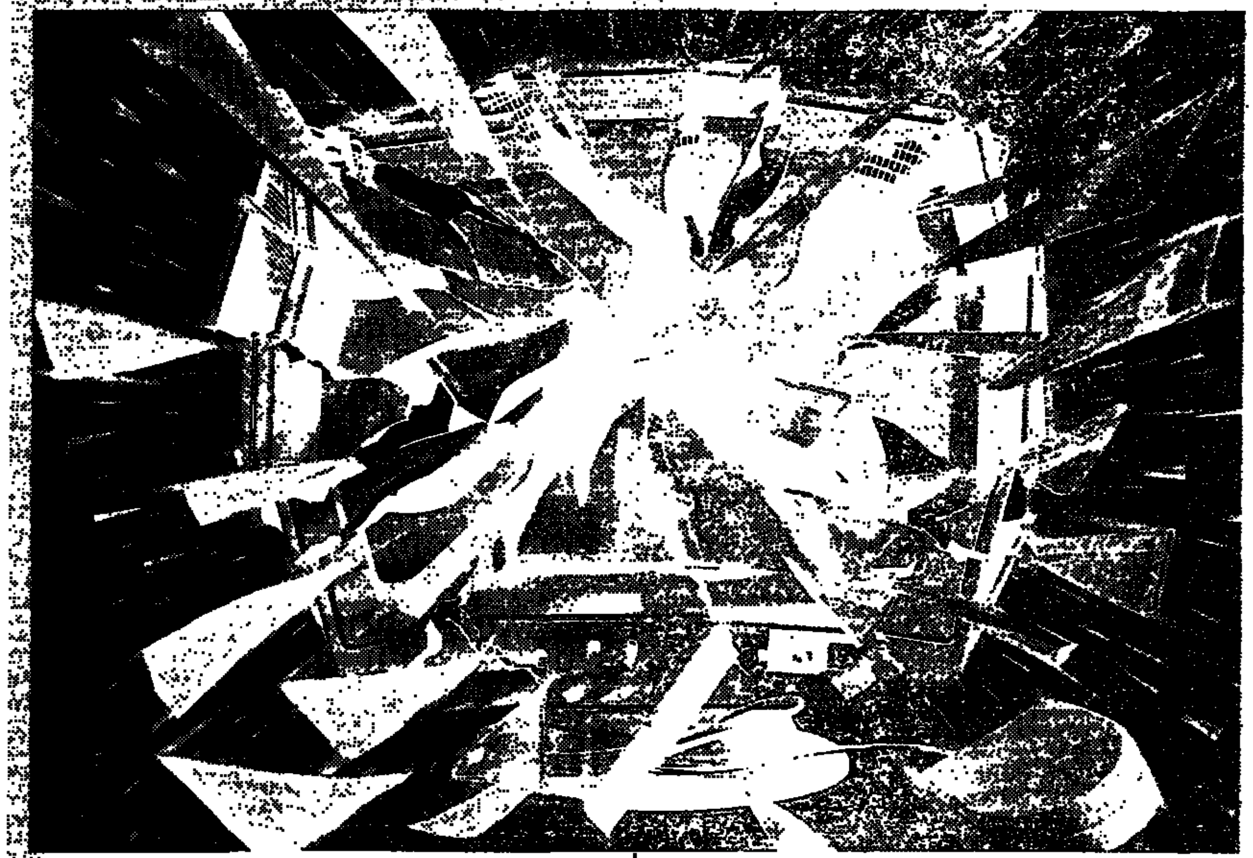

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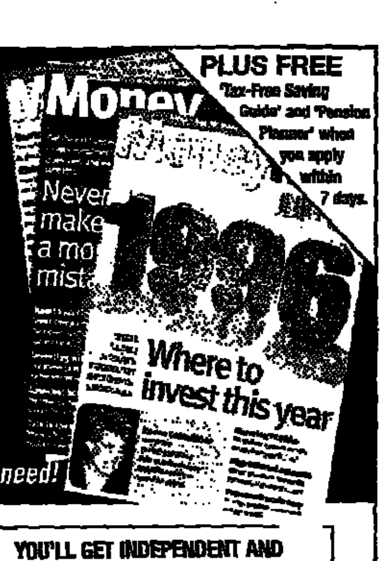

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Far from guaranteed

Sara McConnell reports on the thousands unwittingly signing up to meet unlimited liabilities

Thousands of people guaranteeing loans for relatives or friends are unwittingly signing up to open-ended commitments to meet unlimited liabilities, it emerged this week.

Nearly half the 770,000 debt problems handled by Citizens Advice Bureaux in 1995-96 concerned consumer credit, including agreements to guarantee loans. John Wheatley, social policy officer at the National Council for Citizens Advice Bureaux (Nacab), says: "Reports from bureaux indicate that clients who guarantee loans are not always informed of the implications of their actions and are not always provided with copies of agreements as is required by law."

In one case seen by Weekend Money, parents acting as guarantors for the deposit on a home for their student daughter nearly signed themselves up to guarantee all her debts before demanding restrictions to the guarantee agreement on the advice of their solicitor.

In other cases seen by Citizens Advice Bureaux, people have faced losing their homes after agreeing to guarantee loans secured on property without an explanation of what they are signing. A couple in Manchester are having to sell their home after agreeing to guarantee their son's overdraft using the security of their home. The Citizens Advice Bureau says: "No explanation was given about liability or need for independent advice. The agreement was signed in the street on the manager's car bonnet."

Under the Banking Code of Practice, banks are supposed to warn people offering to act as guarantors that they should take independent legal advice before committing themselves. The bank has a duty to make sure the potential guarantor understands the implications of signing the document. A House of Lords ruling three years ago reinforced these safeguards when it ruled that a wife could not be held liable for guaranteeing debts run up by her husband because the bank had failed to explain the nature of the guarantee.

Banks insist that they follow the guidelines set down by the Banking Code. But they admit that they normally issue a guarantee form with standard wording. This contains no restrictions on the size of the loan guaranteed or the length of time the commitment will last. It is up to individuals to specify what they want and agree amendments accordingly.

But Michael Jelly, partner at Irwin Mitchell, solicitors, says: "Guarantees are complicated. But there are two main things to look out for. There should be a stated limit on the amount guaranteed and the guarantors must insert this. The standard forms also don't have a time limit and this must be put in." Many people wrongly assume that, because they have explained they want a guarantee for a specific sum and time, this will automatically be included.

Eric and Petra Bridgstock fortunately heeded suggestions to seek independent advice

Mr Jelly stresses that banks are not necessarily trying to be dishonest and sign people up to large commitments. They carry standard forms because this is administratively easier. But he says: "You need to look before you sign and challenge the assumptions."

Mr Jelly was approached by Eric and Petra Bridgstock, who wanted to guarantee a £12,000 loan from the Bank of Scotland for their middle daughter, Helen, a student at Edinburgh University. Ms Bridgstock had decided to buy a house in the city which she would live in with four friends as tenants. The rent from the four would pay the mortgage which was to be in her name. But the standard form from the bank would have meant the Bridgstocks were legally liable not only for the £12,000 deposit but also for other loans and debts, including potential overdrafts. Mr Bridgstock says: "If you don't look at the fine print you aren't only guaranteeing the loan, you're guaranteeing everything that someone might run up."

The Bridgstocks fortunately heeded Bank of Scotland's instructions to take independent legal advice and showed the guarantee form to Mr Jelly who negotiated restrictions.

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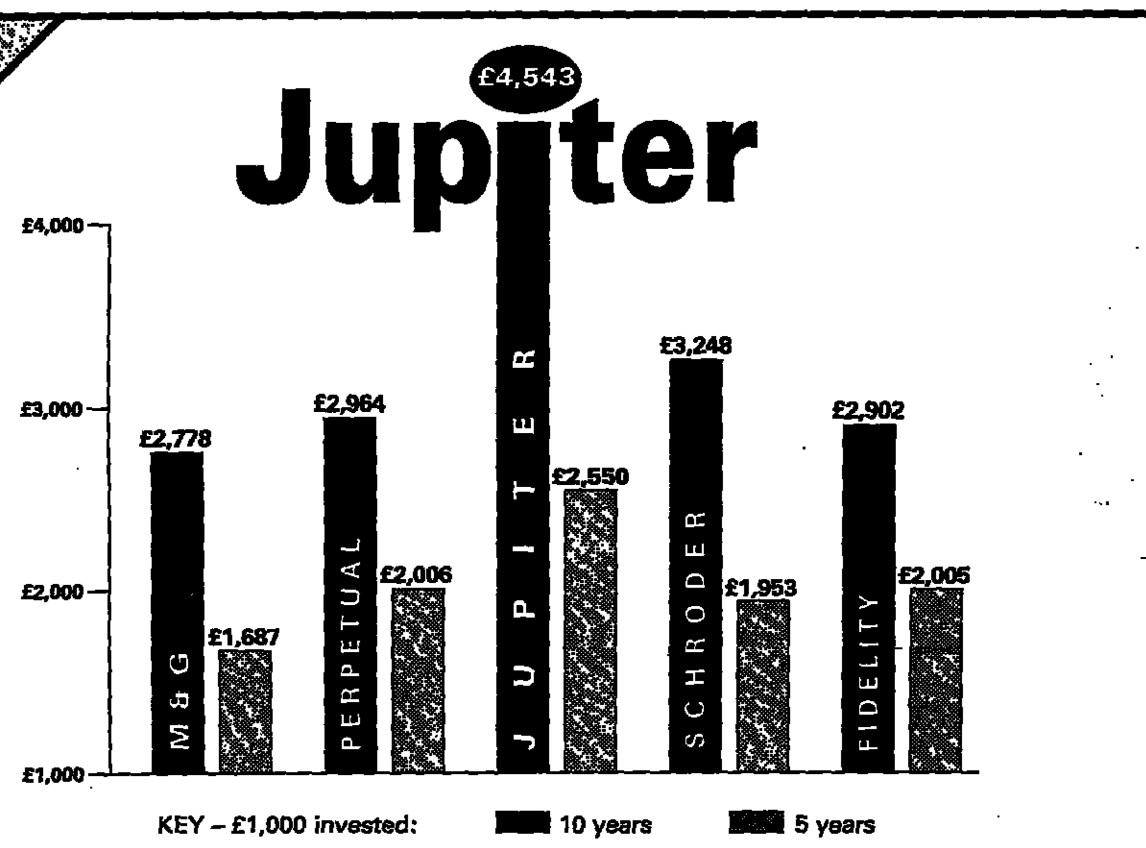

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EARs give borrowers just half of the story

Borrowers are still being kept in the dark over the real cost of credit, in spite of being bombarded with information on interest rates and fees.

Comparing the cost of borrowing on a credit card with the cost of taking an overdraft is nigh impossible. Banks publish an interest rate called the effective annual rate (EAR), which does not include any monthly fees. Credit cards on the other hand must publish an annual percentage rate (APR), which does take fees into account along with the length of the borrowing period.

The upshot is that EARs are generally lower than annual percentage rates and customers may misinterpret the figures as indicative of better value.

Mark Austin, planning and development manager for RBS Advanta, the joint venture between the Royal Bank of Scotland and Advanta, a US credit card company, said: "NatWest's EAR for an authorised overdraft is 18.9 per cent, but there is a monthly fee of £9. The APR for its credit card is 21.7 per cent which includes a £12 annual fee.

"If you were to calculate an annual percentage rate for the overdraft on the same basis as a credit card — assuming borrowing of £1,000 over a year and including fees — the overdraft APR would actually be 33.4 per cent." He said: "Assuming borrowing of £500 over the same period, the overdraft APR would be a massive 51.7 per cent."

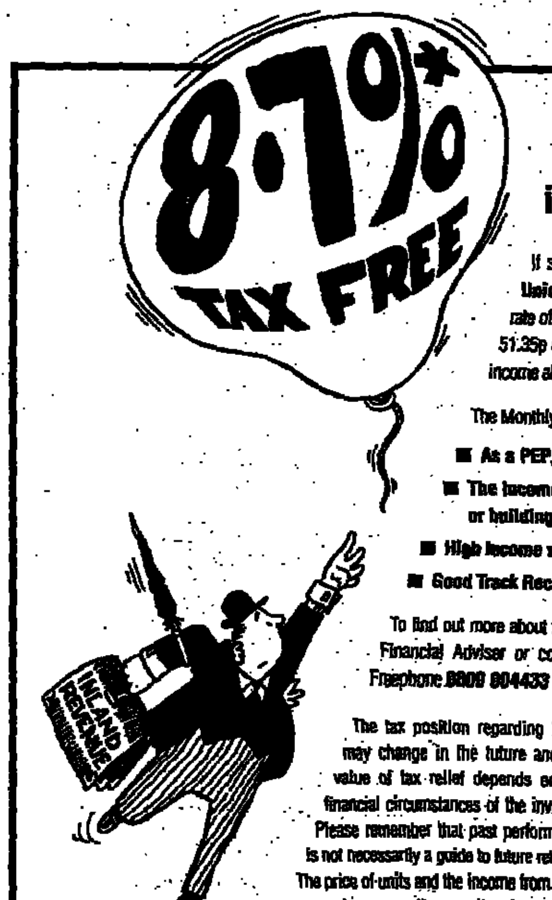
Malcolm Coles, senior researcher at the Consumers' Association, said: "It is ridiculous that banks can get away with just quoting the interest rate for overdrafts and leaving out what can be very large fees."

Brian Capon, spokesman for the British Bankers' Association, which represents the banking industry, said: "The difficulty is that customers may not necessarily use the overdraft facility, or they may go overdrawn for 12 months. This makes it impossible to quote a meaningful APR."

The Consumers' Association thinks banks should work out a typical example to calculate the APR on overdrafts. Mr Coles says: "As the rates could be as high 50 per cent, it's not surprising that they don't. But customers are being misled."

Banks are let off the hook because of a loophole in the Consumer Credit Act 1974 which excludes overdrafts. Pressure is growing on the Office of Fair Trading to look at the issue and suggest that the Government make amendments to the Act.

MATTHEW WALL



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Fiona Bawdon looks at an alternative to lump-sum compensation

Damages decision will hit finances

The daughter of Sir John Harvey-Jones this week received undisclosed damages after injuring herself when she slipped at a restaurant. However, the Court of Appeal recently cut the damages awarded to three seriously injured people in a decision which will have implications for many thousands of accident victims.

The court ruled that people could expect an investment return of 4.5 per cent if they bought equities and gilts with their lump sum compensation. This is 1.5 per cent higher than the 3 per cent obtainable from low-risk index-linked government securities which courts previously accepted.

The difference may not seem much on £2,000 in a building society, but in the case of one catastrophically injured woman the decision meant she lost £520,000 when the compensation to cover her lifetime care was reduced to £1.1 million after the ruling.

The traditional lump sum is, however, not the only way that accident victims can receive their compensation. Recent years have seen the growth of what are called structured settlements which can be used as an alternative where both sides agree.

Q How is the amount of an award worked out?

A Damages are usually made up of two broad components: general and special damages. General damages are to compensate the victim for the injury, such as the loss of a limb, and his pain and suffering. The amount is determined according to well-established tariffs. Special damages are to cover things like loss of earnings and extra expenses incurred as a result of the accident, such as adaptations to the home or the cost of round-the-clock care.

Q How does a structured settlement differ from a lump-sum award?

A Instead of getting a one-off payment which the victim can then invest (or spend as he chooses), the injured person gets a guaranteed regular income for life — the amount of which should reflect his particular needs.

There may also be periodic lump sums to meet expected capital costs say the expense of replacing a specially adapted car.

Q What sorts of claims are eligible for structured settlements?

A Any kind of personal injury case whether caused by, say, an accident at work or a hospital operation that went wrong.

Awards made under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme — made to victims of crime — and the Motor Insurers' Bureau — which pays where a driver causing an accident is uninsured — can also be structured.

Q What are the advantages of structured settlements?

A Their biggest plus is that they give victims and their families certainty. With a lump sum there is always a danger that the money may run out if, say, investments do less well than expected or if the victim lives far longer than expected at the time the award was calculated. As Professor Richard Lewis, author of a book on the subject, says: "With a lump-sum award, you can end up totally broke. With a structured settlement, you will only be broke for a month before you get your next payment."

Payments are tax-free, whereas if a victim invested the money himself he would be liable for tax on the interest. They also spare victims the burden of administering and paying for the investment of a lump sum.

Q Are they suitable for all personal injury cases?

A No. They can only be used where both sides agree to a structure. The courts cannot impose structured settlements.

They may be inappropriate where the award is low either because the injury is relatively minor or because the court decides the victim should bear some of the blame — say 50 per cent — for the accident and reduces the award accordingly.

In this situation it might be better to take damages as a lump sum and buy a major item such as a new home which should preserve the victim's entitlement to means-tested state benefit. As a rule of thumb, damages under £100,000 are thought by some legal advisers to be unsuitable for structuring.

Q Are there any drawbacks with structured settlements?

A Structured settlements provide certainty — but also rigidity, because once a settlement is set up it cannot be amended if a victim's circumstances suddenly change.

If a victim dies earlier than expected, a structured settlement can let the defendant or his insurers off very cheaply (and unlike lump-sum awards, nothing will be left for the victim's heirs). This is, however, a problem that can be avoided by building in a guaranteed minimum period of, say, ten or 20 years over which the settlement will pay out even if the victim dies.

There is no guarantee that the amount of income that the victim receives will necessarily keep pace with his needs over the years. Although structures are linked to the retail prices index, usually through an index-linked annuity, the cost of care may rise faster than the rate of inflation.

FERDAUS SHAMIM/LNS

Last-minute settlement: Sir John and Gabrielle Harvey-Jones

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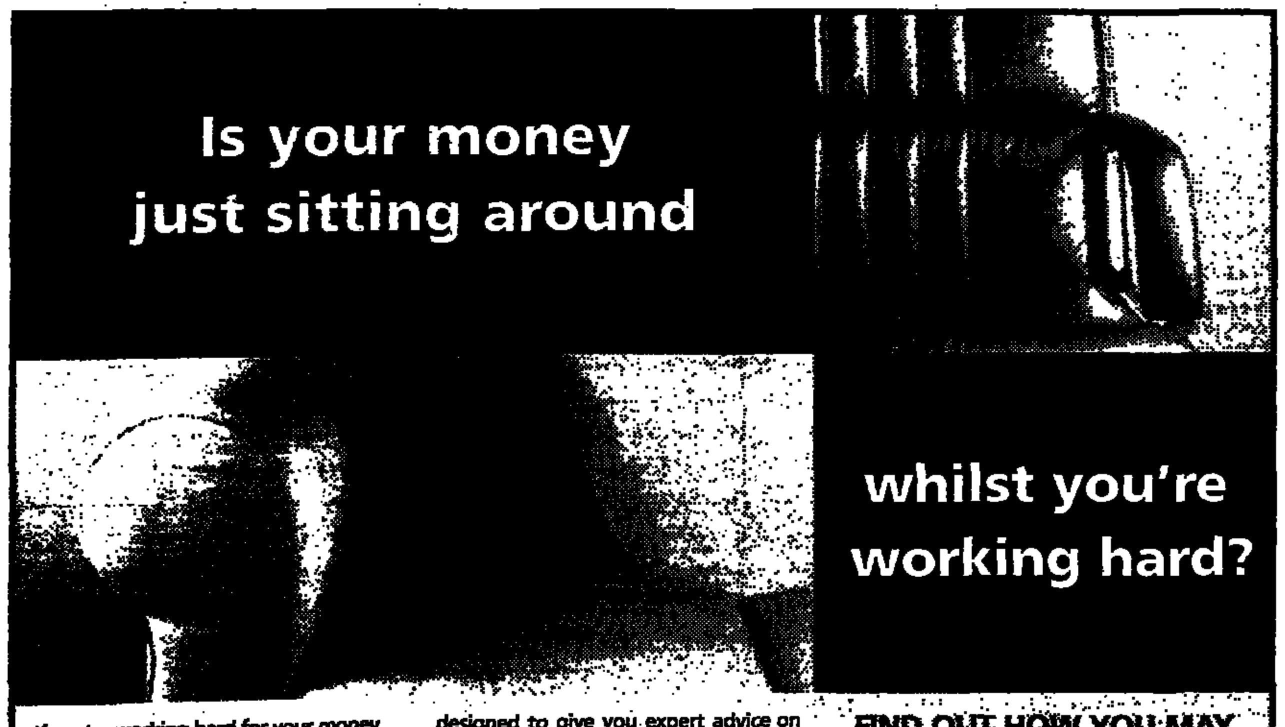

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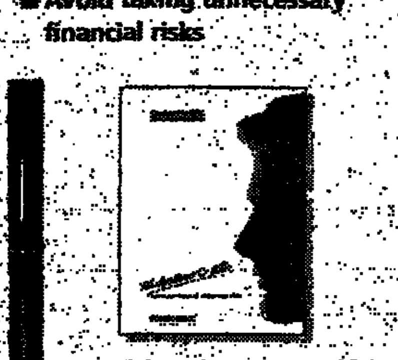

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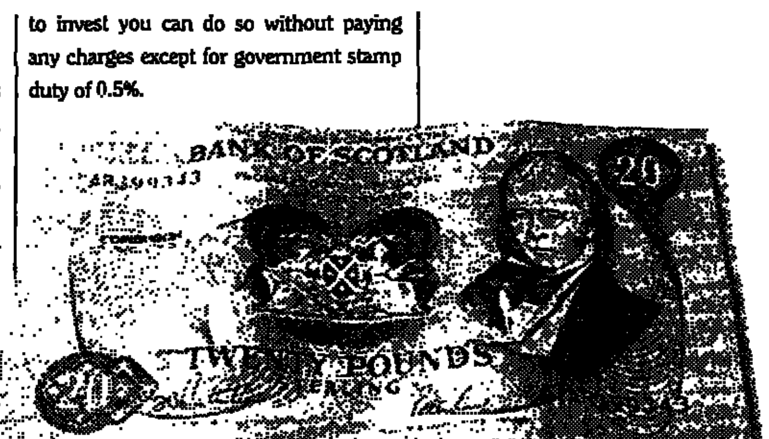

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THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

Retirement needs careful planning

As the peak time of the year for retirement approaches, it is crucial that pre-retirement financial planning is started, according to *Managing Your Money*, from The Investor's Portfolio. The book offers advice on what to tell the taxman, how to track down past pension investments and how to make the most of a retirement lump sum. An accompanying booklet, *Investing for Income*, describes the investment products available and their hidden pitfalls. Available from The Investor's Portfolio (01359 269459) — price £5.95.

☐ Benefit rules for people with mortgages are starting to bite and could lead to increased poverty and homelessness, say the Child Poverty Action Group and Shelter, which have launched a new edition of *Rights Guide for Home Owners*. The guide provides advice on how to enforce your rights in order to prevent repossession and the best way to negotiate with mortgage lenders. It includes the changes to legislation relating to homelessness and new rules for benefit claimants. Send a cheque for £8.95 to CPAG Ltd, 1-5 Bath St, London EC1V 9PY.

☐ The Inland Revenue has produced a 60-page booklet, *Residents and non-residents*, revealing how tax is charged in the United Kingdom. The first part of the booklet explains what is meant by residence, ordinary residence and domicile. The second part explains how these factors affect how much income and capital gains tax you have a liability to pay in the UK. The booklet also discusses how the normal taxation rules may be modified where a double taxation agreement applies. This is important if you have income or gains from a source in one country and are resident in another. Copies can be obtained from Tax Inquiry Centres.

☐ This month more than 2,000 solicitors will be waiving their usual fees for making wills as part of an initiative by Will Aid, a biennial event run by a consortium of six British charities. A donation is requested (£40 for a single will, £60 for a pair of mirror wills). All money raised will be split between Will Aid member charities. For a list of participating solicitors, call 0990 133371.

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	20,000	AIG Life	5.50
	50,000	AIG Life	5.60
2 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	4.65
	3,000	ITT London & Edin	5.70
	20,000	AIG Life	5.80
	50,000	AIG Life	5.90
3 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	4.95
	3,000	ITT London & Edin	5.95
	20,000	AIG Life	6.03
	50,000	AIG Life	6.08
4 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	5.20
	3,000	ITT London & Edin	6.35
5 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	5.45
	3,000	ITT London & Edin	6.45

Source: Chamberlain de Broë 0171-434 4222. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

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INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
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Alliance & Leic BS 0645 228858	Instnt Direct	Postal	£5,000	5.40	Yly
Bristol & West BS 0800 901109	Inst Acc Post	Postal	£10,000	5.85	Yly
Bristol & West BS 0800 901109	Inst Acc Post	Postal	£25,000	6.05	Yly

NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Chelsea BS 0800 132351	POST-tel 20 day	20 day p	£5,000	6.05	Yly
National Counties 01372 747771	Direct 90	90 day	£20,000	6.30	Yly
Greenwich BS 0181 8588212	One Year Term	1 yr bnd	£2,500	6.50	Yly
Yorkshire BS 0800 378836	Fxd Rate Bond	31.3.98	£5,000	6.60	F/OM

FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505	Fixed Rate	5 year	£8,575	7.50	F/Yly
NatWest Bank 0800 200400	Fixed Rate	5 year	£5,000	7.45	F/Yly
Birmingham Midshires 0645 720721	Infltn Beater	5 year	£1,000	7.00	Yly
Principality BS 01222 344188		5 year	£500	6.80	Yly

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Co-operative Bank 0800 109000	Advantage Visa	0.64%NC	7.90%N	Nil
Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa	0.917%C	11.50%	Nil
RB of Scotland 01702 349393	Visa/WorldwideM	0.935%N	12.90%N	£10

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Alliance & Leic Grp 0116 2626262	14.80%	£114.93	£102.36

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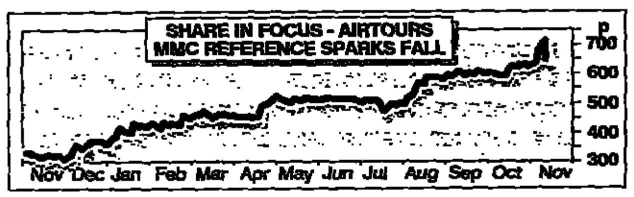
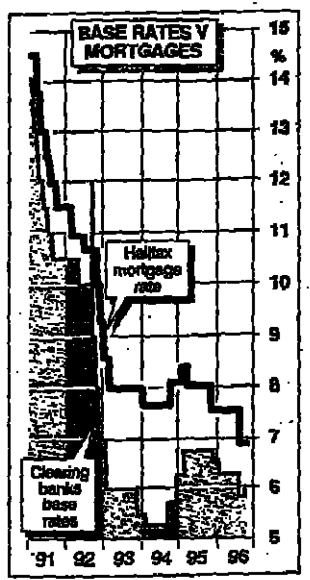
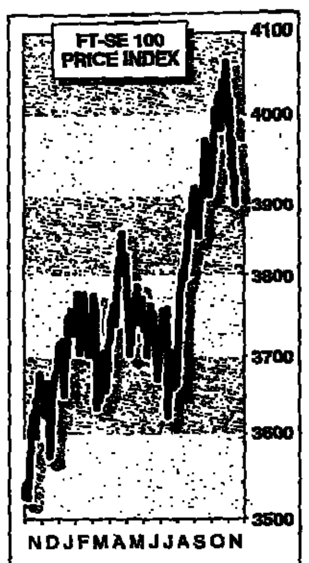
Bristol & West	13.375%	143.04	9.351	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13.000%	138.87	9.362	100.42	1,000
Coventry	12.125%	131.06	9.225	100.75	1,000
First National	11.750%	122.57	9.587	100.25	10,000
Halifax	8.750%	96.85	9.035	100.62	50,000
Halifax	12.000%	130.00	8.978	100.28	50,000
Halifax	13.625%	149.28	9.127	100.00	50,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	144.81	9.236	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	118.39	9.064	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	136.83	9.227	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	139.75	9.034	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	139.00	9.262	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase
Cheshire (28/09-27/03)	8.41563%	107.63	100.00	1,000
First Nat(20/09-20/03)	8.48750%	101.63	100.00	1,000

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares
Source: ABN AMRO Hoare Govett — 0171 601 0101







LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Alliance & Leic 0181 742 0471	1.39	£200-300k	75	Disc of 5.6% until 1.10.97
Birm Midshrs Mortg 01344 394000	2.95	£100k+	75	4% dsc-31.7.97, 2% dsc-31.1.99
Bristol & West 0800 608088	1.95	£15k+	90	Fixd at 1.95% to 31.7.97
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.25 disc for 6 mths,3% dsc 6mth
Barclays Bank 0800 000929	3.49	£15-500k	95	3.50% discount for 12 months

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Scarborough 0800 590547	0.05	to £250k	70	Rate fixed for 12 months
Chorley & David 01257 279373	0.50	£60-120k	80	6% discount for 6 months
Mansfield 01246 202055	0.39	£75-125k	90	6.35% dsc-6 mth 2%-6 mth,1%-1yr
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.25%dsc-6 mth 3% dsc-6 mth
Barclays 0800 000929	3.49	£15-500k	95	3.50% discount for 12 months

NATIONAL SAVINGS

	Gross rate	At tax rates 20%	40%	Min/maximum investmnt £	Notice	Contact
Ordinary A/c[1]	1.50	1.20	0.90	10-10,000**		0645 645000
Investment A/c*	4.75	3.80	2.85	20-500**	1mth	0645 645000
Income Bond*	6.00	4.80	3.60	2,000-25,000**	3mth	0645 645000
First Opt Bond	6.00	4.80	3.60	1,000-20,000**		0645 645000
43rd Issue Cert†	5.35			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Children's Bond†	6.75			25-1,000	1mth	0645 645000
Gen Ext Rate	3.51					0645 645000
Capital Bonds	6.65	5.32	3.99	100-250,000	8day	0645 645000
9th Index Linked†	2.50			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Pensnrs Bond S3	7.00	5.60	4.20	500-50,000	60day	0645 645000

[1] first £70 (£140 jt) of int tax free, inst accs for up to £100 ‡ Additional holdings up to £20,000 for reinvested proceeds †Tax free *Rates gross and vble ‡Guaranteed when held for 5 years ‡Taxable but 0.2% net bonus for £20,000+ *£100,000 jt in addition to S1 and S2 holdings ‡Taxable but cred in full ‡£500-100,000 earn higher rates. **Tiered rates apply

PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann)	Male: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Equitable Lf ....Level	£10,277	£11,187	£12,381
Standard Lf ....Level	£9,956	£11,024	£12,416
Canada Lf ....Level	£9,938	£11,012	£12,478
Generali ....Level	£9,954	£10,987	£12,334
Stalwart * ....Level	£9,686	£10,710	£11,823

SINGLE LIFE	Female: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Canada Lf ....Level	£9,244	£10,045	£11,223
Equitable Lf ....Level	£9,350	£10,027	£10,975
Prudential ....Level	£9,204	£9,956	£11,055
Generali ....Level	£9,061	£9,911	£11,088
Norwich Un ....Level	£9,129	£9,882	£10,989

JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity)	Male: Age 60 Female: Age 55	Age 65 Age 60	Age 70 Age 65
Equitable Lf ....Level	£9,046	£9,563	£10,276
Stalwart* ....Level	£8,540	£9,226	£10,001
Canada Lf ....Level	£8,823	£9,434	£10,306
Prudential ....Level	£8,772	£9,363	£10,193
Generali ....Level	£8,672	£9,362	£10,222

* Maximum purchase £100,000. Higher rates for smokers.
Source: Annuity Direct (0171 588 9393)

Compiled by: Lizanne Rose

FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Bristol & West 0800 608088	0.95	£15k+	95	6.04% disc 6 mnth then 1% disc-6mth
Lambeth 0171 928 1331	3.74	£15-150k	95	3.25% discount for 12 months
Newbury 01635 43676	4.24	£5-100k	95	2.50% discount for 12 months
Banks				
Bnk of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.25% disc 6 mths 3% disc 6 mths
TSB Bank 0500 758000	3.25	£15k+	95	3.74% discount for 12 months

Larger lenders, larger loans and first-time buyers tables supplied by Bay's Guides Ltd. Further information: Bay's Guides, 01753 880482.

Mortgage of the week
"The lowest mortgage rate for 30 years"
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YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT
Additional security, life insurance and credit broker fee may be required.

UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE				
Edinburgh Park, Edinburgh, EH12 9SE				
0131 339 9191				
Balanced	522.70	553.20	-1.40	...
UK Equity	693.00	733.40	-4.40	...
Property	410.60	434.60	+0.40	...
Fixed Interest	366.90	388.30	-1.20	...
Money	268.90	284.60	-0.30	...
International	415.50	439.70	-3.00	...
ABBEY LIFE				
Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL				
01202 292373				
Custodian S4	194.90	205.20	-0.30	...
Ethical S4	160.20	168.70	-1.70	...
International S4	217.50	229.00	-1.20	...
Protected Gth S4	123.70	130.30	+0.20	...
Asian Pacific	201.30	211.90	+1.50	...
European S4	211.40	222.60	+2.00	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	394.90	415.70	+0.10	...
Equity Ser 4	268.40	282.60	-2.50	...
Man Ser 4	773.90	814.70	-1.90	...
Conv Ser 4	353.10	371.70	+0.40	...
Money Ser 4	352.70	371.30	+0.40	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	392.20	412.90	+0.20	...
American Ser 4	648.10	682.30	+8.60	...
High Inc Ser 4	807.90	850.50	-2.60	...
Indexed Inv Ser 4	230.10	242.30	-0.60	...
Japan Ser 4	323.00	340.10	+4.00	...
ALBANY LIFE				
3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ				
01707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	1939.80	2041.80	-19.60	...
European Fd Acc	472.60	497.40	+8.00	...
Fixed Int Acc	564.10	593.70	-1.60	...
Gtd Money Acc	359.60	378.50	+0.20	...
Intl Managed Acc	728.10	766.30	-2.10	...
Int Fxd Int Acc	369.90	389.30	+0.40	...
Japan Fund	243.30	256.10	+3.10	...
N American Acc	422.60	444.70	+4.60	...
Prop Fd Acc	473.70	498.60	+0.50	...
Multiple Inv Acc	1230.10	1294.30	-2.40	...
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE				
Swindon SN1 1EL				
01793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	403.00	424.30	+0.30	...
Equity Acc	1698.10	1787.50	-5.50	...
Property Acc	643.90	677.80	+0.50	...
Far East Acc	328.00	345.30	+4.90	...
Managed Capital	611.60	643.80	-1.60	...
-do- Acc	1296.80	1364.80	-3.00	...
Overseas Acc	1160.40	1221.50	-15.10	...
Gilt Edged Acc	546.70	575.50	+0.40	...
Amer Equity Acc	1084.80	1141.90	-20.20	...
Amer Man Acc	454.80	478.80	+7.70	...
Amer Prop Acc	116.70	122.90	-0.20	...
Distribution Bonds	25.00	26.40	-0.10	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE				
Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks				
01494 463463				
Reserve Ser 6	177.40	186.70	-0.20	...
Balced Ser 6	840.20	884.40	-4.70	...
Opportunity Ser 6	192.60	202.70	-0.10	...
Distribution Ser 6	103.50	108.90	-0.30	6.96
UK Equities Ser 6	£12.14	£12.78	-17.80	...
Higher Inc Ser 6	£12.32	£12.97	-4.30	...
North Amer Ser 6	599.30	630.80	+9.50	...
Far East Ser 6	568.30	598.20	+8.30	...
Europe Ser 6	472.90	497.70	+8.10	...
Intnl Ser 6	667.30	702.40	+7.70	...
Property Ser 6	600.50	632.10	+0.70	...
Fixed Int Ser 6	494.40	520.40	-0.30	...
Ind-Lnkd Sec S6	199.80	210.30	...	...
Gteed Dep Ser 6	320.90	337.60	+0.40	...
BARCLAYS LIFE				
252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB				
0181 534 5544				
Equity Acc	1045.30	1100.40	-13.60	...
-do- Initial	645.60	679.60	-8.40	...
Gilt Edged Acc	435.40	458.40	-0.80	...
-do- Initial	271.40	285.70	-0.40	...
International Acc	457.90	482.00	+7.50	...
-do- Initial	283.40	298.40	+4.60	...
Managed Acc	622.50	655.10	-1.20	...
-do- Initial	386.60	407.00	-0.80	...
Money Acc	313.50	330.00	+0.30	...
Property Acc	315.60	332.20	+0.40	...
-do- Initial	195.00	205.30	+0.10	...
American Acc	371.10	390.70	+8.10	...
Far East Gwth	253.10	266.50	+4.50	...
Financial Acc	455.80	479.80	-6.70	...
500 Accum	530.90	558.90	-2.40	...
Japan Acc	248.80	261.90	+5.40	...
Income Acc	620.20	652.90	-3.60	...
Leisure Acc	327.70	345.00	-3.50	...
Special Sits Acc	318.60	335.40	-2.60	...
Unit Tech Acc	184.60	194.40	+2.50	...
BLACK HORSE LIFE				
Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF				
01634 834000				
The Managed Fd	944.22	994.22	-8.97	...
Income Fund	891.38	938.30	-10.46	...
Extra Income	804.28	846.62	-7.91	...
Worldwide Gth	544.32	572.97	-1.95	...
Balanced Fund	805.70	848.11	-10.04	...
Smllr Cos Recov	£10.50	£11.05	+3.57	...
N Amer & Genrl	462.22	486.55	+8.26	...
Pacific Basin	429.61	452.23	+3.64	...
German Growth	257.14	270.68	-1.23	...
Japan Growth	168.31	177.17	-0.85	...
The UK Gth Fd	261.18	274.93	-3.40	...
Contl Euro Gth	163.42	172.03	-0.54	...
Property Fund	420.82	442.97	+0.17	...
Fixed Interest	362.46	381.54	-1.22	...
Cash Fund	304.67	320.71	+0.23	...
Managed Inv	564.15	593.85	-4.54	...
Nth Amer Recov	319.30	336.11	+2.36	...
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Gth	540.78	569.25	+1.25	...
BRITANNIA				
50 Bothwell St, Glasgow G2 6HR				
0141 248 2000				
Measured Perf	193.30	203.50	-5.40	...
Performance Plus	223.30	236.30	+4.60	...
With Profit Perf	187.30	198.10	-0.20	...
UK Opportunity	243.80	258.00	-4.40	...
Euro Opportunity	267.70	283.20	+3.90	...
North Amer Opp	235.00	248.70	+4.30	...
Far East Opp	203.90	215.70	+4.00	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	173.30	182.50	+1.60	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	208.20	220.30	-0.20	...
Fixed Int	226.80	239.90	+0.30	...
Cash	170.40	180.20	+0.10	6.49
Overseas	257.40	272.40	+5.40	...
Formerly Las				
Managed Fund	402.80	424.00	-11.40	...
UK Equity	737.60	776.50	-13.50	...
Property	287.40	302.60	-0.20	...
Money Market	270.00	284.30	+0.30	...
Fixed Interest	329.40	346.80	+0.50	...
Japan	325.80	343.00	+7.90	...
North America	209.10	220.20	+3.80	...
International	397.70	418.70	+8.20	...
European	342.30	360.40	+4.50	...
Far East	151.10	159.00	+3.00	...
CANADA LIFE				
2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA				
01707 51122				
Equity Growth ‡	282.80	...	...	...
Managed	391.40	412.10	-1.50	...
Property	259.20	272.90	...	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	269.10	283.30	-0.90	...
Equity	460.20	484.50	-4.60	...
Cash	230.20	242.40	...	...
CLife Euro Mgd	454.80	478.80	+2.80	...
CLife Intl Fd	393.50	414.30	+3.60	...
Managed Fund	844.00	888.40	-0.30	...
Property Fund	554.00	583.20	+0.60	...
Equity Fund	1128.00	1187.40	-16.20	...
Gilt Edged Fd	686.30	722.40	-2.30	...
Deposit Fund	356.90	375.70	...	...
Investment Fd	501.40	528.40	-17.60	...
International	618.50	651.00	+2.80	...
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE				
Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 01908 606101				
Property Fund	169.60	178.60	...	...
Managed Fund	737.70	776.60	-15.10	...
Equity Fund	436.40	459.40	-10.80	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS				
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0117 9290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	337.30	355.10	+0.70	...
Ruby	201.00	211.60	+2.60	...
Emerald	158.70	167.10	+0.10	...
Equity	396.80	417.70	-2.90	...
Property	239.20	251.80	+0.40	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	228.40	240.50	...	...
Indexed Secs	184.10	193.80	+0.10	...
Cash	202.20	212.90	+0.10	...
Nth American	292.90	308.30	+2.70	...
Far East	332.90	350.50	+5.00	...
International	274.30	288.80	+4.30	...
Special Sits	446.30	469.80	+2.40	...
Intl Income	350.80	369.30	-0.20	...
European	396.00	416.90	+6.00	...
Japanese	129.80	136.70	+2.80	...
SE Asia	406.60	428.00	+12.00	...
With Profits Reg	185.40	195.40	+0.20	...
-do- Spec	185.60	195.40	-0.30	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	394.00	414.80	-0.10	...
Equity	490.40	516.30	-5.20	...
Property	222.80	234.60	-0.30	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	295.50	311.10	-0.10	...
Index Linked	197.40	207.80	-0.20	...
Cash	277.00	291.60	+0.10	...
Nth American	364.30	383.50	+5.40	...
Far East Acc	320.00	336.90	+6.70	...
International Acc	345.10	363.30	+4.90	...
Special Sits	669.90	705.20	-1.30	...
European Flex	574.60	605.10	+0.50	...
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP				
Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 01634 890 000				
(Units) Key 1	343.26	...	...	...
-do- Pacemaker 1	370.46	...	...	...
-do- Cash	216.88	228.29	+0.14	...
-do- Equity	646.76	680.80	-1.75	...
-do- Fxd Int	401.65	422.79	-0.24	...
-do- Managed	463.02	487.39	-0.79	...
-do- Property	334.21	351.80	+0.80	...
(Pens) Cash Cap	214.74	226.06	+0.08	...
-do- Cash Inv	336.35	354.06	+0.35	...
-do- Equity Cap	£16.91	£17.80	-7.04	...
-do- Equity Inv	£26.49	£27.89	-10.55	...
-do- Fixed Cap	433.05	455.86	-0.50	...
-do- Fixed Inv	678.28	713.99	-0.31	...
-do- Index Cap	210.96	222.07	-0.17	...
-do- Index Inv	330.41	347.82	-0.06	...
-do- Mngd Cap	672.90	708.33	-2.51	...
-do- Mngd Inv	£10.53	£11.09	-3.22	...
COMMERCIAL UNION				
St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3 0171 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5) ‡	905.60	...	-24.31	...
Var Ann (5) ‡	107.47	...	-2.15	...
Prime Managed	471.10	495.90	-0.60	...
Prime UK Equity	597.30	628.80	-5.60	...
Prime Int Equity	331.40	348.90	+5.00	...
Prime Property	251.10	264.40	+0.20	...
Prime Fxd Int	260.20	273.90	-0.30	...
Prime Index-Link	185.10	194.90	...	...
Prime Cash	220.60	232.30	+0.10	...
CONFEDERATION LIFE				
Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN				
01438 744840				
Managed Fund	1283.40	1350.90	-20.00	...
Equity Fl	1907.50	2007.80	-27.00	...
For Crown see Windsor				
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE				
Montpellier Drive, Cheltenham, GL53 7LQ.				
01242 221311				
Life Funds				
Ut With Pfts (58m) ‡	109.30	...	+0.10	...
Secure (2) ‡	105.90	...	+0.10	...
Managed (3) ‡	113.30	...	-0.40	...
Equity Mngd (3) ‡	113.00	...	-0.50	...
Adventurous (3) ‡	106.50	...	+0.30	...
Bristol & West (2) ‡	107.00	...	+0.10	...
Equity Mgd S1	279.30	294.00	-1.40	...
Managed S1	279.00	293.70	-1.30	...
Adventurous S1	222.30	233.90	+0.50	...
Managed (2)	187.00	196.90	-0.80	...
Pension Funds				
Unit With Pfts (5) ‡	108.00	...	+0.20	...
Secure (2) ‡	105.30	...	+0.10	...
Managed (2) ‡	109.30	...	-0.60	...
Equity Mngd (2) ‡	110.10	...	-0.60	...
Adventurous (2) ‡	102.70	...	-0.40	...
Bristol & West (2) ‡	106.40	...	+0.20	...
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND				
60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 0171 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	350.70	363.40	-3.80	0.01
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT				
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH				
01722 413366				
Managed	366.40	385.70	+6.90	...
UK Equity	504.80	531.40	-5.80	...
Stewardship	449.30	471.40	-1.80	...
Overseas Equity	336.00	353.70	+3.80	...
North American	199.50	210.10	+4.00	...
Pacific Basin	173.30	182.50	+2.20	...
European	303.30	319.30	+6.00	...
Property	184.30	194.10	-0.20	...
Fixed Interest	268.60	282.80	-0.30	...
Index Linked	184.80	194.60	...	...
Cash	216.30	227.70	+0.10	...
FP Life Assurance ex NM				
Fixed Interest	597.40	628.80	-3.90	...
Managed	811.30	853.80	-2.50	...
Deposit	369.20	388.60	+0.30	...
Property	522.20	550.70	+0.60	...
American	540.90	569.30	+11.50	...
Australian	624.90	657.70	-3.20	...
European	728.80	767.10	+13.80	...
Income Acc	884.20	930.70	-8.20	...
-do- Dist	491.61	517.50	-5.70	5.13
International	356.00	374.70	+5.90	...
Japan Smaller	417.80	439.70	+3.60	...
Singapore & Mal	410.50	432.10	+4.60	...
Smaller Cos	496.20	522.30	-7.90	...
Tokyo Fund	611.00	643.10	+8.00	...
UK Equity	686.30	722.40	-9.20	...
CCM Vangd Mg	881.40	927.70	-7.50	...
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD				
Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 0171 710 4567				
GT Plan Far East	324.40	341.50	+3.90	...
GT Plan Wwide	549.20	578.20	-2.00	...
GAN LIFE & PENSIONS				
Gan House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 01279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	784.70	784.70	-0.10	...
-do- Inv A	784.60	826.00	-0.10	...
UK Equity	488.20	514.00	-5.20	...
Gilt Plus	224.50	236.40	-0.40	...
Managed	354.40	373.20	+0.10	...
GENERAL ACCIDENT				
2 Rougier St, York YO1 1HR. 01904 628982				
Managed	245.00	257.80	-0.10	...
Unitised Profit	156.70	164.90	-0.20	...
UK Equity	351.50	369.90	-3.60	...
Fixed Int	216.20	227.50	+0.10	...
Index-Linked	180.80	190.20	+0.20	...
Cash Deposit	186.90	196.60	+0.10	...
Property	180.60	190.20	-0.20	...
International	193.10	203.10	+1.90	...
American	212.80	223.90	+4.50	...
Japan	216.10	227.40	+3.90	...
Japan Smllr Cos	221.30	232.90	+4.00	...
European	214.70	225.90	+3.40	...
Pacific Fund	305.40	321.30	+4.50	...
Conv Life	153.20	161.10	-1.10	...
Formerly Provident Mutual				
Managed Ord	558.80	588.20	-0.40	...
Managed Initial	354.00	372.60	-0.50	...
Equity Ord	887.90	934.60	-8.90	...
Equity Init	562.40	592.00	-5.90	...
I-Linked Gilt Ord	220.30	231.90	-0.30	...
I-Linked Gilt Init	145.70	153.40	-0.10	...
Oseas Equity Ord	429.80	452.40	+7.30	...
Oseas Equity Init	272.30	286.60	+4.50	...
Property Ord	280.60	295.40	-0.30	...
Property Init	177.70	187.10	-0.20	...
Fixed Int Ord	315.90	332.50	+0.20	...
Fixed Int Init	200.10	210.60	...	...
Deposit Ord	222.60	234.30	-0.20	...
Deposit Initial	141.00	148.40	...	...
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE				
Royal Exchange London EC3. 0171 283 7101				
All Prop Bds	866.30	922.40	...	...
Managed Initial	532.10	560.10	-1.80	...
-do- Acc	772.30	813	-2.30	...
Equity Initial	843.20	887.60	-10.70	...
-do- Acc	1255.70	1321.80	-15.30	...
Fixed Int Initial	467.80	492.40	-0.70	...
-do- Acc	696.80	733.30	-0.60	...
Intl Initial	499.80	526.10	+5.10	...
-do- Acc	744.30	783.50	+8.00	...
Nth Amer Initial	240.50	253.20	+2.10	...
-do- Acc	326	343.20	+3.10	...
Pacific Initial	225.40	237.30	+3.30	...
-do- Acc	302.70	318.60	+4.00	...
Property Initial	182.10	191.60	...	...
-do- Acc	271	285.20	...	...
Index-Lnkd Initl	167.70	176.60	-0.20	...
-do- Acc	227.30	239.30	-0.20	...
Deposit Initial	204.70	215.50	-0.10	...
-do- Acc	304.90	320.90	+0.20	...
Euro Initial	122.40	128.90	+1.40	...
-do- Acc	153.30	161.40	+1.80	...
HALIFAX LIFE LTD				
PO Box 285, York YO1 1YB 01904 611110				
Life Funds				
Foundation	29.88	31.45	-0.08	...
Balanced	29.88	31.45	-0.01	...
Opportunity	30.90	32.53	-0.06	...
Deposit	25.42	26.76	+0.02	...
Pension Funds				
Foundation	31.10	32.74	-0.21	...
Balanced	30.82	32.44	-0.10	...
Opportunity	31.95	33.63	-0.15	...
Deposit	26.06	27.42	+0.02	...
HAMBRO ASSURED				
Harbour House, Portway, Preston, Lancs PR2 2PR. 01772 840080				
Managed	198.90	209.30	-1.10	...
-do- Pens	253.10	266.40	-1.80	...
UK Equity	211.30	222.40	-2.70	...
-do- Pens	251.80	265.00	-4.00	...
International	168.80	177.60	+1.00	...
-do- Pens	186.80	196.60	+1.40	...
Deposit	149.40	157.30	+0.10	...
-do- Pens	181.10	190.60	+0.20	...
HILL SAMUEL LIFE				
NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon				
0181 686 4355				
Security Fund	685.10	725.00	-7.10	...
British Fund	675.90	715.30	-8.10	...
International	627.00	663.50	+7.40	...
Dollar Fund	546.30	578.10	+11.00	...
Capital Fund	579.90	613.70	-1.20	...
Income Fund	835.90	884.60	-5.60	...
Property Series A	498.90	528.00	...	4.90
Property Units	828.80	870.30	...	...
Financial Fund	758.00	802.20	-1.60	...
Managed Ser A	644.20	681.70	-0.90	...
Managed Units	1161.30	1222.50	-1.30	...
High Yield Fund	747.30	790.80	-3.00	...
Money Series A	311.70	329.90	+0.30	...
Money Units	416.00	437.90	+0.40	...
Equity Fund	741.90	785.10	-1.50	...
Fixed Interest	416.20	440.50	+2.40	...
Indexed Secs	203.90	215.80	+0.70	...
European Fund	873.40	924.30	+13.70	...
Natural Res	321.80	340.60	-1.50	...
Far East Fund	645.70	683.30	+9.40	...
Smaller Cos	660.60	699.10	-0.20	...
Special Sits	637.50	674.70	-0.20	...
Man Currency	282.60	299.10	+0.30	...
Japanese Tech	289.10	306.00	+3.50	...
US Smaller Cos	441.40	467.10	-0.90	...
Formerly Target Life Assurance Co Ltd				
Deposit	267.10	281.20	+0.20	...
Financial Ser 1	60.50	64.60	-1.50	...
Fixed Interest	365.10	384.30	-0.40	...
Gold	85.70	90.40	-1.90	...
Managed	714.50	752.20	-5.70	...
Mngd Growth	229.00	241.20	-4.70	...
Mngd Opp	243.00	255.90	-5.00	...
Property	363.90	383.10	...	...
Residential Prop	111.90	117.80	+0.10	...
TSB American	288.60	303.90	+6.30	...
TSB Brit Gwth	1072.40	1128.90	-13.30	...
TSB European	314.90	331.60	+5.40	...
TSB Income	456.70	480.80	-4.20	...
TSB Intl	482.20	507.70	+4.70	...
TSB Intl Inc	325.40	342.60	-0.50	...
TSB Pacific	404.90	426.30	+4.80	...
TSB Prem Inc	285.70	298.50	-1.20	...
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE				
Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TF. 01727 48181				
Global Managed	669.20	704.40	-5.50	...
Global Property	320.90	337.80	...	...
Global Fixed Int	573.00	603.20	-3.40	...
Global Equity	730.50	768.90	-6.30	...
Global Cash	230.40	242.50	-0.20	...
LAURENTIAN LIFE				
Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ				
01452 371371				
Property	543.50	572.10	+1.00	...
Managed	480.80	506.10	-0.70	...
American	520.90	548.30	+7.40	...
UK Equity Fd	545.30	574.00	-5.30	...
Japan	191.80	201.80	+4.10	...
Index-Lkd	200.90	211.40	-0.50	...
High Yield	1009	1062	-4.00	...
Money	433.90	456.70	-0.30	...
International	428.10	450.60	+5.90	...
Henderson Active	230.20	242.30	+1.90	...
Perpetual Active	365.40	384.60	+6.70	...
Growth Acc	751.80	791.30	-0.30	...
Gilt Edged	475.80	500.80	-1.30	...
European	168.80	177.60	+2.50	...
Far East	222.30	233.90	+4.50	...
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE				
2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE				
01273 824000				
B Soc Lnkd Init	134.80	141.90	...	...
-do- Acc	197.20	207.60	+0.10	...
Brit Opps Init	170.60	179.60	-0.70	...
-do- Acc	224.30	236.20	-0.80	...
Cash Initial	170.50	179.50	+0.20	...
-do- Acc	310.80	327.20	+0.20	...
Equity Initial	770.50	811.10	-6.60	...
-do- Acc	1405.00	1479.00	-12.10	...
Fixed Initial	368.30	387.60	-0.30	...
-do- Acc	671.50	706.90	-0.30	...
Index-Lnkd Gilt	138.00	145.30	-0.20	...
-do- Acc	214.70	226.00	-0.30	...
Intl Initial	340.00	358.00	+5.10	...
-do- Acc	612.10	644.40	+9.20	...
Managed Initial	528.80	556.70	-0.30	...
-do- Acc	964.30	1015.10	-0.60	...
Property Initial	225.20	237.10	+0.30	...
-do- Acc	410.60	432.30	+0.60	...
LINCOLN NATIONAL				
The Quays, 101-105 Oxford Road, Uxbridge, Middx UB8 1LZ 01895 208 260				
Equity Units	15940	...	-171.00	...
Property Units	2790	2937	-1.00	...
Bal Bd Exec Unit	7664	8068	-5.00	...
2nd Equity Acc	749.20	788.60	-8.50	...
2nd High Inc Ac	717.40	755.20	-6.20	...
2nd Property Acc	251.40	264.60	-0.20	...
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	197.30	207.70	...	...
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	533.50	561.60	-0.40	...
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	262.30	276.10	+0.70	...
2nd Deposit Acc	305.20	321.30	+0.20	...
2nd Gilt Acc	337.70	355.50	-1.10	...
2nd Amer Acc	874.10	920.10	+12.60	...
2nd Intl Mny Acc	251.60	264.80	+0.60	...
2nd Index Acc	224.00	235.80	-0.70	...
2nd Far East Acc	440.10	463.30	+9.20	...
2nd Global Acc	190.00	200.00	+2.70	...
2nd Euro Acc	181.30	190.80	+3.00	...
2nd Japan Acc	172.30	181.40	+3.20	...
2nd Int Cr Bd Acc	172.60	181.70	+0.10	...
2nd Cap Gth Acc	147.20	154.90	-1.80	...
LONDON LIFE				
100 Temple Street, Bristol, BS1 6EA				
0117 984 7777				
Equity ‡	£10.50	...	-7.20	...
Fixed Interest ‡	484.60	...	+3.10	...
Property ‡	450.70	...	+0.60	...
Deposit ‡	317.20	...	-0.50	...
Mixed ‡	686.40	...	-0.40	...
Indexed Stock ‡	238.20	...	+1.00	...
International ‡	328.70	...	+4.90	...
Equity A ‡	243.20	...	-1.60	...
Fixed Int A ‡	214.50	...	+1.40	...
Property A ‡	197.60	...	+0.20	...
Deposit A ‡	186.00	...	+0.30	...
Mixed A ‡	225.00	...	+0.10	...
Index Stock A ‡	186.10	...	+0.80	...
International A ‡	204.90	...	+3.10	...
Equity P ‡	898.00	...	-6.10	...
Fixed Int P ‡	656.20	...	+3.50	...
Property P ‡	354.80	...	+0.50	...
Deposit P ‡	380.10	...	+0.70	...
Mixed P ‡	644.30	...	+1.00	...
Index Stock P ‡	272.20	...	+1.00	...
International P ‡	388.00	...	+7.30	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE				
Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 01392 282456				
Inv Trust Cap ‡	608.10	...	-2.80	...
-do- Acc ‡	1109.40	...	-4.20	...
Property Cap ‡	137.00	...	+0.10	...
-do- Acc ‡	238.70	...	+0.20	...
Fxd Interest Cap ‡	199.60	...	-0.80	...
-do- Acc ‡	350.60	...	-1.40	...
Equity Cap ‡	358.00	...	-5.70	...
-do- Acc ‡	639.60	...	-9.70	...
Internatl Cap ‡	241.10	...	+1.50	...
-do- Acc ‡	426.10	...	+3.10	...
Gtd Deposit Cap ‡	161.30	...	...	...
-do- Acc ‡	280.70	...	+0.10	7.20
Flexible Cap ‡	364.40	...	-3.00	...
-do- Acc ‡	657.70	...	-4.70	...
Moneymaker Fd ‡	506.00	...	-3.40	...
Capital Growth ‡	2096.30	...	-26.20	...
M & G				
Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB				
01245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	546.00	573.40	+11.40	...
Amer Rec Bond	601.90	632.10	+7.80	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	300.80	315.90	+0.20	...
Australasia Bd	298.70	313.80	+2.10	...
Commodity Bond	376.60	395.50	-3.50	...
Deposit Bond Acc	388.50	408.10	+0.20	...
Equity Bond Acc	1747.80	1835.30	-10.50	...
European Bd Acc	474.40	498.20	+5.50	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	873.90	917.70	-22.40	...
Gilt Bond Acc	492.10	516.80	-3.70	...
Gold Bond Acc	180.30	189.40	-2.00	...
High Yield Bond	866.30	910.30	-1.10	...
Index-Lnk Gt Bd	226.10	237.50	+0.60	...
International Bd	866.80	910.30	+13.00	...
Japan Bond Acc	222.10	233.20	+3.70	...
Japan Sm Cos Ac	218.00	229.00	+2.10	...
Managed Bonds	1008.30	1058.80	+4.30	...
Prop Bond Acc	441.10	463.20	+2.10	...
Rec Bond Acc	892.50	937.30	-13.70	...
S East Asia Bd Acc	339.10	356.10	+5.10	...
MGM ASSURANCE				
MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 01903 204631				
UK Equity	268.50	282.70	-3.60	...
UK Equity Acc	405.20	426.60	-5.00	...
Special Sits	112.00	117.90	-1.40	...
Special Sits Acc	169.10	178.00	-2.00	...
North American	226.60	238.60	+4.20	...
N American Acc	342.00	360.00	+6.50	...
Pacific Basin	352.40	371.00	+5.20	...
Pacific Basin Acc	531.90	559.90	+8.10	...
Fixed Interest	299.30	315.10	-0.40	...
Fixed Interest Acc	452.20	476.00	-0.50	...
Property	180.50	190.00	+0.10	...
Property Acc	272.80	287.20	+0.30	...
Deposit	154.40	162.60	...	...
Deposit Acc	233.40	245.70	+0.20	...
Managed	294.70	310.30	-1.00	...
Managed Acc	409.90	431.50	-1.20	...
MERCHANT INVESTORS				
St Bartholomews House, Lewins Mead Bristol BS1 2NH				
0117 9266 366				
Property	424.10	446.40	+0.30	...
UK Equity	427.20	449.60	-4.70	...
Gilt Edged	652.10	686.40	-1.90	...
Interest Fund	427.90	450.40	+0.70	...
Managed Fd	553.20	582.30	-2.00	...
Intl Equity	679.20	714.90	+4.10	...
North American	266.50	280.50	+5.10	...
Far East	446.80	470.30	+5.60	...
Intl Currency	259.70	273.30	+0.20	...
NPI				
48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH				
0171 623 4200				
Managed	576.00	606.30	-0.80	...
UK Equity	771.80	812.40	-7.60	...
Overseas Equity	542.70	571.20	+8.50	...
American	518.70	545.90	+10.80	...
Far East	598.60	630.30	+13.90	...
Property	228.10	240.10	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest	434.80	457.60	-0.30	...
Indexed Gilt	252.40	265.60	-0.10	...
Deposit	233.80	246.10	+0.30	...
NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds				
PO Box 140, Norwich NR3 1PF				
01603 622200				
Managed Fund	1726.40	1817.30	-3.50	...
Equity Fund	3920.20	4127.10	-44.60	...
Property Fd	642.40	676.20	+0.80	...
Fixed Int Fd	678.40	714.10	-0.30	...
Deposit Fund	379.40	399.40	+0.30	...
Intl Fund	285.00	300.00	+3.80	...
OLD MUTUAL				
2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA				
01256 768888				
Equity Fund Acc	350.30	369.60	-2.70	...
Fxd Interest Acc	271.30	286.20	-1.00	...
International Acc	272.80	287.80	+2.50	...
Managed Acc	247.90	261.50	-0.70	...
Property Acc	214.90	226.70	-0.90	...
Money Acc	165.90	175.00	-0.20	...
Spec Mkt Acc	230.10	242.80	+2.30	...
Japan Equity Acc	118.30	124.70	+1.90	...
N Amer Acc	202.20	213.30	+6.20	...
Pacific Acc	156.70	165.40	+2.20	...
European Acc	236.50	249.50	-0.20	...
PEARL ASSURANCE				
The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY. 01733 470 470				
Inv Prop Dist	139.60	147.00	+0.40	...
Prop Acc (Gross)	335.60	353.30	+0.90	...
Inv Equity	1448.50	1524.80	-21.80	...
Inv Managed	988.40	1040.50	-5.00	...
Ret Managed	1158.20	1219.20	-5.70	...
For Provident Mutual see General Accident				
PRUDENTIAL				
Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH				
0171 405 9222				
Managed	412.90	430.20	-5.10	...
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FDS				
1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP				
0171 548 3228				
Managed Fund	956.70	1007.10	-2.10	...
Equity Fund	1900.30	2000.40	-20.70	...
Intl Fund	742.70	781.80	+10.40	...
Fixed Interest	633.10	666.50	-1.70	...
Property Fund	496.90	523.10	+0.60	...
Cash Fund	393.10	413.80	+0.40	...
Pacific Basin	388.00	408.50	+7.60	...
N American Fd	359.30	378.30	+7.10	...
Euro Fund	343.00	361.10	+6.30	...
Balanced Fund	187.30	197.20	-0.60	...
Strategic Fund	201.70	212.40	-0.10	...
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE				
Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 01733 390000				
Mnk Grow (45) ‡	887.90	...	-15.30	...
-do- Acc	497.60	523.80	...	...
Op Prop	520.10	547.40	-0.10	...
Op Equity	1215.10	1279.00	-17.90	...
Op High Yield	664.00	698.90	-3.00	...
Op Managed	948.50	998.20	-4.70	...
Op Deposit	422.00	444.20	+0.40	...
Japan Smlr	215.60	226.90	+8.30	...
Managed Gth	335.80	353.40	-5.20	...
Gilt	90.20	94.90	...	...
British	452.20	475.90	-18.10	...
Global Bond	124.90	131.40	-2.20	...
Gold Share	84.70	89.10	-1.30	...
Option Dist	335.10	352.70	...	...
Japan	380.20	400.20	...	...
UK Smlr Cos	523.80	551.30	-0.30	...
Mngd Growth	569.20	599.10	-9.10	...
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE				
New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS				
0151 239 3000				
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	455.20	479.10	-2.30	...
Equity Fund	658.80	693.40	-11.20	...
Property Fund	358.30	377.10	-0.10	...
International	553.20	582.30	+3.90	...
Pacific Basin	282.70	297.50	+2.50	...
United States	355.50	374.20	+2.20	...
Gilt Fund	414.40	436.20	-1.60	...
SAVE & PROSPER				
16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 01708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	88.10	93.30	-0.10	2.41
Deposit Fund (2)	407.00	430.70	+0.10	6.07
Gilt Fund	585.90	620.10	+2.00	8.43
Global Equity Fd	272.90	288.80	+1.60	...
Property Fund (46)	120.40	127.50	...	7.20
AG Bond Fund	154.80	163.90	-0.30	...
SCOTTISH AMICABLE				
150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow				
0141 248 2323				
Equity	723.00	761.10	-12.30	...
Fixed Interest	409.80	431.50	-2.00	...
Index-Linked	213.70	225.00	-1.30	...
International	511.80	538.80	+2.50	...
Property	318.70	335.50	+0.40	...
Cash	247.70	260.80	+0.10	...
Managed	546.90	575.70	-4.40	...
Cap Gtred Bd	140.80	148.20	-2.40	...
95% Safeguard	94.90	...	-0.40	...
100% Safeguard	94.90	...	-0.10	...
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE				
28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF				
0131 556 9101				
Cash	195.645	205.942	+0.14	...
Index-Linked	180.00	189.50	-0.50	...
Fixed Interest	204.40	215.20	...	...
Mixed	306.20	322.40	+1.50	...
UK Equity	297.90	313.60	-0.80	...
International	298.00	313.80	+7.60	...
American	356.80	375.60	+10.50	...
Japan	217.80	229.10	+4.80	...
European	328.30	345.50	+9.80	...
Pacific	371.50	391.10	+7.20	...
Technology	510.50	537.40	+7.70	...
Fgn Bd/Crcy	244.00	257.00	+1.00	...
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
19 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE				
0131 225 2211				
Property	229.30	241.30	+0.30	...
UK Equity	440.10	463.30	-3.70	...
American	327.00	344.30	+7.00	...
Pacific	359.80	378.80	+6.00	...
European	586.80	617.70	+11.40	...
Global Mgd	364.10	383.30	+3.10	...
Fixed Interest	265.80	279.80	-1.70	...
Index Linked	216.20	227.70	+0.50	...
Deposit	210.50	221.70	-0.20	...
Managed	340.60	358.60	+0.40	...
Worldwide	136.00	143.30	+3.10	...
Pen Worldwide	146.80	154.70	+3.50	...
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE				
109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN				
0141 248 6321				
Flex Fund (35)	2043.70	2106.90	...	...
Safety Fund	268.50	282.70	-0.70	...
Growth Fund	276.90	291.50	+0.30	...
Opportunity Fd	277.60	292.30	+0.50	...
Cash Fund	187.30	197.20	+0.20	...
European Fund	426.80	449.30	+10.00	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	228.50	240.60	-0.10	...
Index-Linked Fd	198.20	208.70	+0.20	...
International Fd	530.50	557.40	+6.60	...
North American	307.40	323.60	+5.90	...
Property Fund	131.40	138.40	-0.10	...
UK Equity	304.00	320.00	-2.90	...
UK Smaller	318.60	335.40	-1.80	...
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT				
6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA				
0131 556 9181				
Mixed	325.80	343.00	-0.60	...
Equity	362.30	381.40	-3.30	...
International	295.10	310.70	+4.50	...
Property	241.80	254.60	...	...
Fixed Interest	254.30	267.70	-0.40	...
Index Linked	198.80	209.30	-0.10	...
Cash	199.60	210.40	+0.10	...
Formerly Prolific				
Bal Gwth Mngd	963.30	1014.00	+2.10	...
Cash Fund	364.10	383.70	+0.40	...
Property Fund	314.80	331.80	+0.40	...
Equity Fund	1030.80	1096.60	+8.00	...
Fxd Interest Fund	532.90	561.60	+0.10	...
International	419.30	446.10	+5.60	...
High Income	895.40	952.60	-4.10	...
Far East	574.50	611.30	+9.70	...
North American	694.60	739.00	+10.20	...
Special Sits	875.30	931.20	-4.50	...
Technology	1002.40	1066.40	+14.90	...
Extra Income Fd	481.90	512.70	-4.00	...
Gilt Fund	531.10	565.10	-0.30	...
European	179.60	191.10	+2.20	...
Adventurous Mg	241.90	254.90	+1.20	...
Secure Mgd	172.90	182.20	...	...
Equity Inc Dist	137.80	145.30	-0.80	4.09
Managed Dist	122.70	129.30	...	4.81
Henderson Investment Bonds				
UK Equity Fd	406.80	432.80	-0.60	...
North American	443.10	471.40	+3.80	...
Far East Fund	576.50	613.40	+5.90	...
Global Managed	558.50	594.20	+4.00	...
Deposit Fund	245.50	258.50	+0.20	...
Prime Residential	137.70	145.00	...	...
European Fund	324.00	344.70	+2.90	...
Fixed Interest	65.30	69.60	+0.30	...
SCOTTISH WIDOWS				
PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU				
0131 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	1205.80	1269.80	+4.40	...
Inv Pol 2	1090.50	1148.00	+4.20	...
Inv Pol 3	1032.10	1086.50	+4.00	...
Inv Cash	340.90	358.90	+0.30	...
Mixed Fund	543.40	572.10	+3.30	...
Equity Fund	674.20	709.70	-4.20	...
Property Fund	262.00	275.90	+0.20	...
International Fd	556.40	585.80	+8.30	...
Fixed Interest Fd	424.80	447.30	+1.30	...
Indexed Stock Fd	219.30	230.90	-0.90	...
Cash Fund	246.30	259.40	+0.20	...
SKANDIA LIFE				
Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX				
01703 334411				
Managed Acc	454.00	477.80	-1.40	...
Equity Acc	568.20	598.10	-5.50	...
International Acc	374.30	394.00	+6.60	...
Property	237.70	250.20	-0.20	...
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO				
3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ				
0131 225 2552				
Cash	289.30	304.60	+0.20	...
Equity	1253.60	1319.60	-13.10	...
European	196.10	206.50	+2.70	...
Far East	174.80	184.10	+2.90	...
Fixed Interest	450.60	474.40	...	...
Index Linked	232.80	245.10	+0.30	...
International	675.20	710.80	+10.20	...
Managed	937.50	981.60	-0.70	...
Nth American	189.40	199.40	+1.80	...
Property	391.20	411.80	+0.40	...
Pensions				
Cash	462.00	486.40	+0.50	...
Equity	1919.80	2020.90	-24.80	...
European	251.40	264.70	+4.20	...
Far East	139.80	147.30	+3.60	...
Fixed Interest	643.40	677.30	+0.20	...
Index Linked	329.00	346.40	+0.40	...
International	999.40	1052.10	+8.20	...
Managed	1238.40	1303.60	-1.40	...
Nth American	251.00	264.90	+3.20	...
Property	555.30	584.60	+0.70	...
Stock Exchange	277.40	292.10	-0.70	...
SUN ALLIANCE				
St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex				
01403 232323				
Managed Fund	808.30	850.90	-2.50	...
Equity Fund	1114.90	1173.60	-16.70	...
Fixed Interest Fd	461.30	485.60	-0.40	...
Index-Linked Fd	353.00	371.60	-0.20	...
Property Fund	542.20	570.80	-4.50	...
International Fd	749.40	789.80	+12.00	...
N American Fd	377.90	397.80	+3.00	...
Far East Fund	269.00	283.00	+4.00	...
Deposit Fund	363.10	382.20	+0.30	...
Intnl Bd ‡	£100.80	...	+3.27	...
Worldwide Bond	171.60	180.70	+0.90	...
European	216.30	227.70	+4.30	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	813.70	856.70	-8.30	...
Ebor Phoenix Eq	559.10	598.90	...	...
Property Growth				
Property Fund ‡	633.00	...	-5.00	...
-do- Acc ‡	986.50	...	-4.50	...
Agricultural Fd ‡	895.20	...	-0.40	...
-do- Acc ‡	855.00	...	+0.40	...
Abbey Nat Fd ‡	473.50	...	-1.80	...
Abbey Nat Acc ‡	496.90	...	-2.00	...
Investment Fd ‡	433.40	...	-1.20	...
Investment (A) ‡	414.60	...	-1.30	...
Equity ‡	1637.50	...	-22.60	...
Equity Acc ‡	1560.70	...	-21.60	...
Money Fund ‡	519.70	...	+0.30	...
-do- Acc ‡	494.70	...	+0.20	...
Actuarial Fd ‡	713.30	...	-3.20	...
Gilt-Edged Fd ‡	434.10	...	-0.40	...
-do- Acc ‡	434.10	...	-0.40	...
Retire Annuity ‡	1349.60	...	+7.60	...
Immed Annuity ‡	301.00	...	...	...
Bldg Soc Life ‡	245.20	...	+0.10	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA				
Basing View, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ				
Dealing: 01256 841414				
Growth Acc ‡	1792.80	...	-12.70	...
Managed Acc ‡	1005.30	...	-8.70	...
Equity Account ‡	1502.30	...	-8.90	...
Mngd Fund Acc	458.00	482.20	-4.20	...
Equity Fund Acc	649.60	683.80	-4.10	...
Prop Fund Acc	278.70	293.40	+0.40	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	350.70	369.20	+0.60	...
Money Fund Acc	238.10	250.60	+0.10	...
Indx-Lnk Scs Ac	224.80	236.60	-1.00	...
Pens Fund Acct ‡	2281.00	...	-37.60	...
Pens Mngd Acct	1050.80	1106.10	-18.40	...
Pens Guarantee	293.30	308.80	+0.50	...
Pens Equity	419.30	441.40	-9.30	...
Pens Property	323.10	340.10	-0.20	...
Pens Fixed Int	334.50	352.10	-2.90	...
Pens Intl	277.20	291.80	-5.60	...
Pens Money	261.20	274.90	+0.10	...
Pens Indx-Lnkd	217.90	229.40	-2.70	...
SUN LIFE UNIT				
St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL				
0117 9426911				
Managed Acc	1044.10	1099.10	-2.30	...
Property Acc	320.60	340.30	-1.70	...
Equity Acc	1774.00	1867.40	-18.10	...
Fixed Int Acc	460.00	484.30	+0.20	...
Cash Acc	336.60	354.40	+0.20	...
Amer Equity Acc	501.40	527.80	+8.80	...
Japan Acc	266.60	280.70	+4.50	...
Pacific Acc	391.60	412.30	+0.90	...
Far Eastern Acc	842.30	886.70	+4.60	...
International Acc	660.90	695.70	+5.30	...
Distribution Fund	297.30	313.00	-0.50	3.69
European	218.00	229.50	+3.40	...
Defrd Dist	192.80	203.00	-0.70	...
TSB LIFE LTD				
Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE				
01264 345678				
Managed Fund	333.90	351.50	-0.30	...
Property Fund	236.10	248.70	-0.10	...
Fixed Interest Fd	249.60	262.90	-0.20	...
Money Fund	216.10	227.60	+0.20	...
Equity Fund	441.10	464.40	-0.70	...
WINDSOR LIFE				
Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire				
01952 292929				
Managed Bond	833.40	878.20	-7.60	...
Money Fund	342.10	360.10	+0.20	...
Equity Fund	771.80	812.40	-13.30	...
Fixed Interest	314.20	330.70	-2.40	...
Property Fund	380.10	400.10	+10.00	...
Gresham Framlington				
American & Genl	711.60	749.80	-8.50	...
Income	899.20	947.50	-10.40	...
International Gth	709.40	747.50	+3.50	...
Capital Fund	787.70	830.00	-11.60	...
Recovery Fund	633.20	667.20	+0.30	...
Japan & General	233.30	245.80	-0.40	...
Formerly Allianz				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	19.47	20.49	+0.01	...
Bear	22.88	24.08	-0.09	...
Owl	25.62	26.97	-0.11	...
Bull	21.46	22.59	-0.01	...
Stag	23.10	24.32	+0.12	...
Gilt Edged	20.83	21.93	-0.10	...
Deposit	16.88	17.77	+0.01	...
Pensions				
Squirrel	27.20	28.63	+0.03	...
Bear	32.77	34.49	-0.14	...
Owl	36.28	38.19	-0.19	...
Bull	28.67	30.18	-0.01	...
Stag	30.66	32.27	+0.16	...
Gilt Edged	27.00	28.42	-0.15	...
Deposit	22.44	23.62	+0.02	...
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund	704.71	...	-0.34	...
1982 Series				
UK Equity	427.40	449.89	-2.04	...
N Amer Equity	362.32	381.39	+3.36	...
Far East Equity	409.23	430.77	+6.46	...
Fixed	331.37	348.71	-1.53	...
Cash Deposit	220.84	232.46	+0.18	...
Property	161.31	170.01	-0.08	...
Special Opp	445.34	468.67	-2.19	...
Managed	370.92	390.44	-0.22	...
Index-Linked Fd	208.34	219.83	-0.22	...
Formerly Crown				
Life Mangd Acc	704.70	736.30	-0.50	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	419.80	441.80	...	...
Life Equity Acc	£10.33	£10.73	-7.20	...
Life Money Acc	322.80	339.30	-0.20	...
Life Inv Tst Acc	918.20	965.40	-0.70	...
Life Intl Acc	547.10	575.80	+7.60	...
Life High Inc Acc	938.30	985.00	-14.50	...
Life Property Acc	235.10	247.50	-0.10	...
Brewin Equity	847.60	892.30	+7.00	...

اصكنا من الاجل

WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

I know where to turn for advice in future

THE TIMES SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2 1996 WEEKEND MONEY

Alliance & Leicester bonanza first of four

Caroline Merrell answers your questions on the big pay day at the societies

From Mr J.D. Hadley

Sir, My wife and I have small accounts with the Alliance & Leicester Building Society.

We both received the 100-page booklets on November 2. I ploughed my weary way through mine.

My wife took one look at hers and shuddered. I presume that the lengthy document is a legal requirement, but could not the Alliance & Leicester directors have included a simple precis?

Thank goodness for Caroline Merrell's article (Alliance & Leicester bonanza first of four) on page 35 of Weekend Money. We could understand that.

Yours faithfully,
J. HADLEY,
Sunnyridge,
Newgate,
Haverfordwest,
Pembs.

Trustees must pursue rejection of claims for shares for their charges

From Mrs A.M. Wilson

Sir, Your correspondents (Mrs Krzysia Gossage and Wing Commander Richard Dauncey — First-named are enablers, not owners of society accounts for the disabled, Weekend Money Letters, November 2) mention two categories of people administering building society accounts on behalf of others. There is a third kind of enabler, the trustee.

I have been told by the Alliance & Leicester that the first named trustee on my son's account book has the vote and receives the shares.

Since I am that trustee and I have my own account with the society, he will receive nothing. Had the other, male trustee been put down first (as seems to be normal practice) he would have benefited and could have put the money into the trust.

Such arbitrary means of allocation are clearly unfair, and in my opinion trustees are failing in their duty if they do not vigorously pursue the rights of those for whom they manage accounts.

Yours faithfully,
A. WILSON,
1, Leys Avenue,
Cambridge.

Penalties of abolishing profit-related pay schemes

From Mr Dominic Moss

Sir, For the past few years there has been speculation that the Government could raise additional revenue by abolishing profit-related pay. This year is no different and, if anything, the speculation is more exaggerated than ever.

One and a half billion pounds, the sum quoted by the Treasury as the "cost" of PRP, is a considerable amount. However, when considering the total level of Government expenditure — £285 billion, it is a small figure and has achieved notoriety out of proportion to its impact on the public purse.

PRP has been successful but it still covers less than 20 per cent of eligible employees. Given its benefits, it should be asked why more employers have not adopted it? Should a highly successful concession, the only employee tax relief introduced this century be abolished when there are more juicy and politically acceptable targets to aim at?

Sadly abolishing PRP would not deliver the quick fix that the pundits would like. As Newton deduced, for every action there must be an equal and opposite reaction. In the September issue of *Taxation Magazine* Philip Fisher gave an excellent appraisal of the implications of PRP abolition.

He concluded that the most likely effect of abolition would be a rise in unemployment of about 100,000 and no reduction in the basic rate of income tax as the saving would be needed to fund the cost of the people put out of work.

Given the impending election it would be electoral suicide to propose a policy that cost three million voters an average of £300 to £350 pa while putting 100,000 out of work.

Employers considering PRP schemes often ask why the Revenue is promoting a scheme that diverts money from the Exchequer to the employee's pay packet. As always there is method in their apparent madness. Apart from being a tacit recognition of the notion that individuals are better qualified to spend money effectively than the civil service, the Exchequer claws back what it has given away in a number of ways.

Increased spending by recipients of PRP filters back to the Exchequer by means of indirect tax and duties. More expenditure acts as an economic stimulus reducing unemployment, taking people off benefit and making them net contributors to the public purse. Higher company profits hopefully generate higher corporation tax receipts.

The arguments for abolition of PRP just do not add up. However, it could be argued that the abuse of PRP does need to be curbed, by clamping down on service-company schemes or excluding salary-sacrifice schemes.

An option to target PRP more effectively might be to limit relief to the basic rate of tax.

Yours faithfully,
DOMINIC MOSS,
66A High Street,
Harpenden, Herts.

From Mr Philip Fisher

In the light of your article (£1.5bn pay monster in need of control, November 2) with the inherent thread of accelerating inflation I am astonished at continued suggestions of the abolition of profit-related pay.

Not only would this lead to substantial pay inflation as employers made good effective pay cuts, it would also substantially threaten companies still trying to escape from recession.

If the Chancellor did announce such a measure in the Budget the prospect of higher unemployment coupled with potential inflationary pay rises would be explosive mixture which could well sink the Conservative Party at the polling booths. With four million voters standing to lose pay or jobs, profit-related pay must surely survive.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP FISHER,
Director,
Employee Benefits Unit,
Chantrey Vellacott,
Russell Square House,
10-12 Russell Square, WC1.

Peps and shares from flotations

From Mr N.L. Denton

Sir, You reported (Weekend Money, October 12) that free shares issued as part of a building society flotation could be transferred into a Pep for zero value. I have since found that this must be done within 42 days of the flotation.

It is to be hoped that fund managers will consider introducing a self-select corporate Pep restricted to the shares in the former building societies due to float in the next financial year. In an ordinary single-company or corporate Pep, the managers are able to cut dealing charges as they deal in bulk, whereas in self-select Peps, individual dealing charges have to be borne out of the dividends. A scheme as proposed above would enable the recipients of more than one set of free shares to transfer them all to the tax-free haven of a corporate Pep and then invest up to a further £6,000 in the same financial year.

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL DENTON,
12 Maria Court,
Southcote Road,
Reading,
Berkshire.

Treg's costs for lapsed bid

From the chairman,
TR European Growth
Trust Plc

Sir, In a recent article on the demise of Kepit, your reporter "speculated" that the costs to TR European Growth's shareholders of the lapsed bid amounted to some £5 million. As this is the third time this wrong and misleading figure has been quoted in your columns, I write to set the record straight.

The board of Treg were throughout the bid operation mindful of their duty to shareholders. Accordingly, all advisers were retained on a success-fee basis and all other costs were strictly controlled by the board and their advisers.

As I stated at the extraordinary general meeting of Treg held on September 18 and repeated at the AGM held on October 28, the costs of the Offer payable by Treg shareholders amounted to just under £1 million, which was closely in line with our original estimate. This cost represented less than 0.7 per cent of the net asset value (nav) of the company and should be considered in the context of an increase in Treg's net asset value in the last financial year of over 36 per cent (more than double the relevant index) and an increase of some 8 per cent since the bid was launched.

Yours faithfully,
SIR GEOFFREY LITTLER,
Chairman,
TR European Growth
Trust Plc,
3 Finsbury Avenue, EC2.

Letters or information for Weekend Money may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5082. Letters should include a daytime telephone number. *The Times* regrets it cannot always give replies or advice and asks that original documents are not sent in. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in these columns and independent professional advice should be sought.

IBRC can also give authorisation to independent financial advisers

From Mr. D.M. Edmunds

Sir, In the "Weekend Money Guide 1", published on Saturday, 28th September, there is an article headed "Advisers who mean business", which contains a factual inaccuracy. The writer states that "All ... advisers must have been approved by the Personal Investment Authority". This is untrue. Independent financial advisers can also be authorised by the Insurance Brokers Registration Council, which was set up by Act of Parliament in 1977.

Unfortunately, journalists who write on financial matters fail to realise that any statement they make in their articles is taken as completely accurate by their readers.

Not only is the statement inaccurate, but it omitted to remind readers that even advisers approved by the Personal Investment Authority still have until June next year to achieve their Financial Planning Certificate, whereas advisers regulated by the Insurance Brokers Registration Council had to achieve the same standard by December last year.

Yours faithfully,
D.M. EDMUNDS,
1 Arodene Road,
SW2.

Crazy world of motor insurance premiums

From Mr N.D. Thomson

Sir, On requesting the renewal premium which would follow the removal of my wife from my current motor insurance policy, I was amused to discover that the consequent reduction in cover would add some £20 or so to the premium.

Is it possible by adding my (hypothesised) 21-year-old son, currently in jail following a string of drink-driving offences, that I might be able to extinguish the premium for the motor insurance policy altogether?

Yours truly,
N. THOMSON,
Finnock House,
Cliff Terrace Road,
Wemyss Bay,
Renfrewshire.

If I add the whole family...
it follows that you owe us £120 ...
not to mention the dog, right?
POLICY
memo
2-1
=20

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FX10T4

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PLEASE NOTE:
You will earn interest from the day following receipt of your cheque. However we will send you an account application form when acknowledging your cheque, which must be completed and returned before your account can be accepted.

☐ I/we would like to open a Year Plus Deposit Bond (Issue 4) and enclose a cheque for
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(minimum balance £5,000).
I/we would like my/our interest paid:
Monthly: ☐ On maturity: ☐
☐ Please send me more information on the Year Plus Deposit Bond (Issue 4).
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ADDRESS
POSTCODE
PHONE (HOME/WORK)
Please send to: The Year Plus Deposit Bond, (Issue 4), Bristol & West Building Society, FREEPOST, Bristol, BS58 7HP.
*"Personal cheque" means a cheque drawn on your own personal account. Third Party cheques are not acceptable

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
01895 259 783				
Gsaland Amer	227 10	240 30†	+ 4.30	0 14
Grosland Equity	280.60	298.20	- 3.90	1.65
Grosland Euro	366 00	387 50	+ 5 00	0.58
Grosland Extra Bal	131 50	136.70	- 2.90	2.58
Grosland Gilt	75 07	77.38	- 0.16	6.29
Grosland Japan	155 50	164.60†	- 3.30	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	888.70	711.40†	- 6.20	2.54
General Inc	558 10	593.80†	- 5.20	2.54
UK Growth Acc	459 40	488 80†	- 6.10	2.66
UK Growth Inc	297 40	316 40†	- 3.90	2.66
Higher Inc Acc	807.70	859.30†	- 0.60	4.09
Higher Inc Inc	430.30	457 80†	- 0.30	4.09
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	212.80	224.60	+ 0.10	5.42
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	93 10	98.33	+ 0.02	5.42
Nth America	365.00	388.30†	+ 5.70	
Europe	357 50	380.40†	+ 7.20	0.47
Brit Excell	90.66	96.46	- 1.05	2.92
Brit Fortfolis Acc	115.90	123.30†	+ 0.30	4.59
Brit Fortfolis Inc	77.52	82.47†	+ 0.30	4.59
Global Opps	100.20	106.70†	+ 1.00	
Balanced Acc	63.08	67.11†	+ 0.03	2.58
Balanced Inc	58.85	62.61†	+ 0.03	2.58
Japan Acc	42.11	44.80†	+ 0.94	
Pac Basin Acc	389.30	414.20†	+ 4.10	0.87
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	131 90	140 00	- 0.20	6.97
High Inc Equity	182.00	194 70†	- 0.80	4.43
Worldwide Bond	273 60	290 20†	+ 0.20	5.07
American Growth	381 30	407 60	+ 6.00	0.31
Asian Pacific	314 80	336.70	+ 3.00	0.08
Assets & Earnings	303.30	324 40†	- 4.80	2.85
Euro Capital Acc	184 80	197 60	+ 2.90	0.80
Extra Inc	42 92	45 66†	- 0.40	7.85
General	281 00	298 90	- 4.40	2.93
Global Opps	68.11	72.46	+ 0.65	0.55
Japan	107 30	114 80	+ 1.90	
Managed Inc	47 79	50.83†	- 0.16	4.72
Mastertrust	166 10	177 60	- 0.40	1.03
US Emerging Cos	205 40	218 50	+ 4.10	
Ethical	81 46	86 66	- 1.18	2.50
International	133.80	142.30	+ 0.90	0.39
Dividend & Growth	68 07	72.41	- 0.33	4.24
Global Gwth & Sec	73 70	78 72	+ 0.17	2.36
Latin America	63.06	67 09	+ 0.22	
Capital Reserve	146.00	146.00	+ 0.10	4.79
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2371 00	2464.00	- 3.00	
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	61 44	63.75†	+ 1.33	0.15
Emerging Mkts	68 46	72.34	- 0.48	0.05
European	149 90	155.90	+ 3.30	
Exempt	1081 00	1133.00†	-22.00	1.63
Extra Income #	46.50	48.93	- 1.04	6.65
Far East Emg Eco	126 10	132.30	+ 0.80	0.47
Fixed Interest #	25 10	26 10†	- 0.13	9.10
Food Inv Tst	153.40	160.50†	- 0.40	9.54
Japan	164.20	170.70	+ 3.70	
Latin American	57 91	60.29	+ 0.84	0.81
Pacific	82 11	86.29	+ 0.73	0.30
Property Share	72 04	75.63	+ 0.22	2.32
UK Emerging Cos	69.77	75 41	- 1.34	1.29
UK Growth	53.86	56 10†	- 1.30	2.09
Amer Wrold Port #	81 72	83.29	- 0.17	3.47
Ethical	76.87	79.95	- 0.54	2.21
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.58	50.63	- 0.13	7.30
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5868				
Residl Property #	99.39	106.90		5.25
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	91 34	96.91	- 0.53	2.27
Income Builder Inc	81 61	86.82	- 0.52	4.17
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts:				
Growth & Income	283.70	303.20†	- 3.00	3.07
Capital	499.40	533.80†	- 5.30	1.18
Balanced	828.50	885.60	-10.90	2.35
Accumulator	1593.00	1702.00†	-20.00	1.83
Income Trusts				
American Income	61 67	65.960	+ 0.82	2.42
High Income	455 10	486 50	- 5.00	4.38
Equity Income	258 30	276.10	- 2.90	4.02
High Yield	276 60	295.60†	- 3.10	4.06
Govt Securities	34.02	35.930†	+ 0.12	6.08
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	213.60	227.90†	+ 2.60	0.06
European Growth	51.97	55.380	+ 0.77	0.07
International	184.20	196.90	+ 1.90	0.11
Japan	185.90	198.70	+ 3.30	
Pacific	399.90	427.40	+ 7.30	
Secs of America	588.80	626.80	+11.40	0.13
Wwide Asset Val	56.22	58.030	+ 0.56	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	639.40	683.50	- 8.50	2.00
Conv & Gilt	50.81	54.310	- 0.21	3.90
Smaller Cos	204.60	218.70	- 3.30	1.05
2nd Smaller Cos	194.00	207.30	- 3.10	0.89
Recovery	168.10	179.60†	- 2.50	1.57
Met Min & Cdty	160.90	171.90†	- 1.60	0.78
Overs Earnings	420.90	449.90	- 7.00	1.08
Technology	220.70	235.90†	+ 5.90	
UK Special Sits	580.90	620.90	- 8.50	1.01
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Cntrctd Out Pens	118.10	122.60		3.04
Foundtn Persl Pens	70.39	73.12		1.14
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 800 0033				
Capital	85.11	90.54	- 1.29	1.18
International	67.98	72.32	+ 0.04	
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
America	342.50	365.40	+ 2.50	
Bond	118.00	124 10†	- 0.30	6.73
Brit Smlr Cos	119.70	127.30	- 0.40	1.75
Conv & Gen #	69.38	73.81†	+ 0.42	5.29
Europe	279.90	296.70†	+ 7.00	0.60

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	101.77	108.46	- 0.36	1.84
American Portfolio	124.78	132.47	+ 2.46	1.04
European Portfolio	134.65	143.50†	+ 2.50	0.65
High Income	51.60	51.72†	- 0.13	7.12
Japanese Portfolio	63.29	67.07	+ 1.08	
Pacific Portfolio	155.04	166.71	+ 2.58	1.09
UK Equity	98.56	103.21†	- 0.86	3.42
UK Equity & Bd	57.29	60.69	- 0.11	6.29
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	766.60	778.46	-15.62	4.29
Fxd Int Sec	156.02	157.13	- 1.30	9.10
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	759.65	771.13	- 2.02	4.38
Investment Acc	£35.02	£35.56	- 9.40	
Fixed Int Inc	126.88	127.38	- 0.21	9.11
Fixed Int Acc	231.03	232.01	- 0.39	
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	89.53	94.42†	- 0.37	3.98
Beck Bio-Tech	42.13	45.87	- 0.51	
Acorn Ethical Tst	186.63	196.98	- 0.77	0.45
City Fin Assets	80.40	84.43†	- 3.52	2.28
City Fin Intl	88.94	93.39†	- 1.39	0.46
Fratc Hse Cap	317.07	337.31	- 9.32	2.50
Buckley Wrld Gth	137.38	145.62	- 3.12	
J Stn Inc/Gth Inc	56.08	58.88	+ 0.11	3.25
Shaw Utilities	56.96	58.09†	+ 1.66	6.27
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	52.90	56.13	- 0.24	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Gwth	80.33	85.36	+ 1.63	
Dragon Growth	70.90	75.82	+ 1.50	0.35
Equity High Inc	88.98	95.37	- 0.36	4.14
-do- Accum	128.79	138.04	- 0.52	4.14
Extra Income Inc	26.45	27.85†	- 0.06	7.55
Extra Income Acc	29.11	30.65	- 0.07	7.56
European Gwth	62.94	66.78	+ 1.55	0.87
Evergreen	31.34	33.51	+ 0.09	0.02
General Equity	104.26	110.62	- 1.05	2.90
Japan Growth	44.99	47.86	+ 0.85	
Pedigree Gwth	63.91	68.49	- 0.58	2.39
Ped Sm Cos Inc	37.74	40.58†	- 0.18	1.40
-do- Accum	40.23	43.26	- 0.19	1.40
Retirement Inc #	27.18	29.38	- 0.05	6.07
Special Sits	46.17	49.65	- 0.32	2.38
UK & Overseas	59.56	63.19	+ 0.86	0.58
COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD				
01634 898 000				
Balanced	68.47	72.36	- 0.26	4.17
Capital	83.17	86.63	- 0.46	2.64
High Income	51.32	53.45†	- 0.17	6.79
Top 50	56.01	58.34	- 0.62	2.62
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	193.58	201.65†	- 0.96	4.56
Long Gilt	43.38	45.17†	+ 0.04	6.13
Monthly Inc Plus	49.89	51.97	- 0.01	8.62
Preference Share	47.03	48.95†	+ 0.09	7.96
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	141.15	147.03†	- 0.14	5.80
Managed Fund	76.04	79.21†	+ 0.15	2.75
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	53.54	55.77	- 0.14	1.70
-do- Accum	63.29	65.93	- 0.15	1.70
UK & General	97.24	101.29†	- 1.19	2.92
-do- Accum	127.95	133.28†	- 1.56	2.92
UK Growth	198.30	206.58	- 1.61	1.36
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	207.33	215.97	+ 4.03	0.67
Far Eastern Gth	131.89	137.39	+ 2.11	0.02
Global Bond	77.69	80.93†	+ 0.33	6.12
Japan Growth	104.87	109.24	+ 2.40	
North Amer Gth	240.86	250.90	+ 8.04	
Oriental Growth	82.68	86.13	+ 1.08	0.27
Worldwide Growth	71.92	74.92	+ 1.02	
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.83	91.83†	+ 0.08	5.25
Homemaker Fund	90.15	95.90	- 0.54	1.57
Quitter Fund	154.24	164.09	- 1.68	1.94
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	35.74	38.24	- 0.31	4.34
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	180.30	191.90†	- 2.50	2.90
Income	72.68	77.32	- 0.69	5.00
European	74.31	79.05	+ 1.59	0.91
Recovery	187.30	199.30	- 5.40	2.67
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	1001.90	1016.00		3.45
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 680 370				
Fellowship Tst	112.30	119.40†	- 0.30	1.15
Income #	284.70	302.80†	- 2.60	4.63
-do- Accum #	759.90	808.40	- 7.10	4.63
Smaller Cos	236.30	251.30	- 1.00	0.85
-do- Accum	293.30	311.90	- 1.20	0.86
Gth Portfolio	101.90	108.40	- 1.10	1.31
High Inc Port #	83.18	88.48	- 0.64	4.29
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1634				
Euro Small Cos	1645.80	1692.10	- 1.00	
Japan Small Cos	1096.00	1114.70	+11.60	0.01
UK Small Cos	2210.00	2301.10	+ 0.40	2.87
US Small Cos	2092.50	2163.70†	+ 6.30	0.86
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	230.50	242.70†	- 1.80	3.04

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 690445				
Sector Value Inc #	103.00	108.70†	- 1.10	3.81
Sector Value Gwth	104.40	110.10†	- 1.80	3.17
Hy 5 Europe	100.50	105.30	+ 1.50	2.79
Slater Grwth	177.30	187.10†	+ 0.30	0.61
New Japan	93.77	98.71	+ 0.83	0.01
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	194.40	206.80	- 3.20	
Income #	216.97	230.81	- 0.07	4.20
UK Growth	86.35	91.86	- 0.16	1.86
Intl Growth	85.70	91.17	- 0.47	0.45

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
N Amer Growth	138.05	146.72	+ 3.27	0.02
Special Sits Growth	27.79	29.56	- 0.35	1.99
UK Growth	459.04	488.34†	- 8.61	2.58
-do- Accum	633.93	674.39	- 9.14	2.56
M&W JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd. #	1427.90	1449.89†	-10.00	2.80
Income #	1029.80	1046.00	- 3.00	4.00
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	168.30	170.10†		3.56
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				

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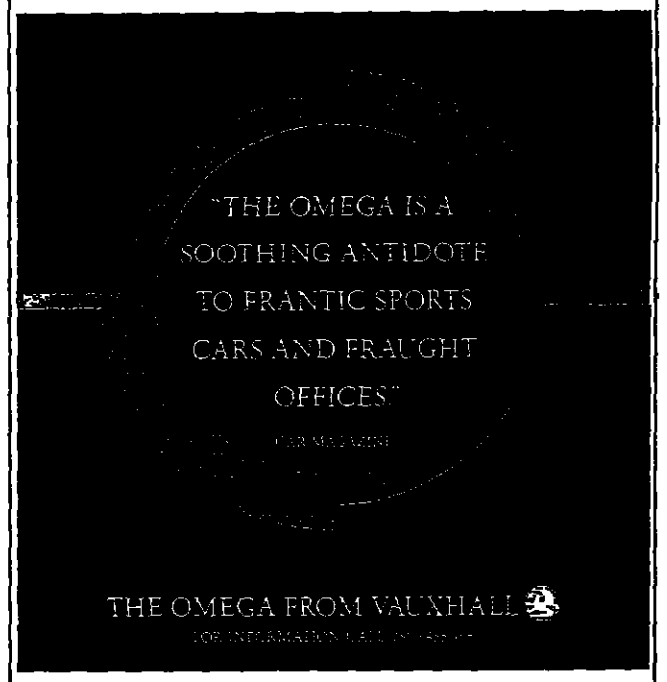

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Ecology	101.56	108.04†	- 0.96	0.87
European	204.614	217.53	+ 3.47	0.57
Far Eastern	298.30	317.30	+ 8.90	
UK Special Sits	53.42	56.99†	+ 0.41	
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	100.60	103.90	- 0.70	7.16
Gilt Yield	119.00	125.60	+ 0.30	6.96
Global Income	229.30	243.90†	+ 1.10	3.63
High Yield	152.30	162.00†	- 0.70	5.76
-do- Accum	505.30	537.40†	- 1.70	5.76
Smlr Cos Div	62.24	66.21†	- 0.17	3.42

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
0800 363432				
M & S Inv Ptflo	178.30	183.80	- 0.20	2.53
-do- Accum	211.70	218.20	- 0.20	2.53
UK Sel Ptflo	158.10	162.90	- 1.60	2.52
-do- Accum	190.50	196.40	- 1.90	2.52
UK 100 Cos	115.40	115.40	- 1.50	2.80
-do- Accum	117.50	117.50	- 1.60	2.80
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 364 842				
Managed Ts	74.34	78.98	+ 0.08	3.58
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 479 4846				
Intl Income	82.76	87.86	- 0.42	3.52
European	105.30	111.80	+ 1.60	0.85

Firmer tone at the close

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
566	419	Allied Domecq	484½	+ 8½	5.1	18.4
625	477	Bulmer (HP)	535	+ 2½	3.1	17.9
131	68½	Burn Stewart	72	+ 2½	5.9	
775	615	Glenmorangie A	760	+ 5	2.0	19.5
498	411	Grand Met	455	+ 5	4.2	19.3
483	430	Guinness	425½	- 1	4.4	13.5
378	315	Highland Dist	331½		3.2	15.7
303	277½	Matthew Clark	290½	- 3½	10.3	13.8
141	89	Merydew W	110½		5.1	10.1
2617½	1530¼	SA Breweries	1534¾	+ 3¼	2.1	...

BANKS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3716¼	2743¾	ABN-AMRO	3584¾	+ 34¾	3.6	19.2
663	528	Abbey Nat	649	+ 1	4.5	12.0
480	375	Allied Irish	394	+ 2	4.6	11.3
374½	285	Aus New Z	357	+ 5½	5.2	8.8
5753¾	3843¾	Bank America†	5746¾	- 9¾		
316	227½	Bank Scotland†	277	- 1	3.3	10.2
1012	683	Barclays	948	+ 8½	3.7	10.4
528¼	413	Bk of Ireland	511½	+ 1½	3.7	11.7
482	379	Cater Allen	391		9.6	11.6
5668¾	4031¼	Citicorp	5662½			
392	307½	Close Bros	378½		3.8	13.2
1575	1310¾	Commerzbk	1400	+ 3½	3.5	...
1350	995	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1025	+ 12½	0.5	...
3412½	2768¾	Deutsche Bk	2775	- 6½	2.6	...
806½	583½	Espirito Santo	750½		4.4	10.8
1507	1084½	Fuji Bank Y	1120	+ 10½	0.4	
472	260	Gerrard Natl	267½	- 3½	10.7	10.9
267½	196	Hambros	253		3.7	
1316	931	HSBC	1292½	- 1½	3.7	12.2
1284½	930	HSBC HK	1262½	- 1½	3.7	12.0
471	385	Irish Perm	469½		3.0	12.8
197	143	King Shaxson	176	+ 2½	6.4	15.3
465	405	Leopold J	465		5.2	16.8
416½	294½	Lloyds TSB	379½	- ½	4.0	16.1
685¼	565	Nat Aust Bk	650¾	- 5½	6.2	8.9
726½	605½	Nat West	671½	- 1	4.9	9.8
67	49½	Rea Brothers	63½		2.0	24.9
596	464	Ryl Bk Scot	486	- 3	4.4	10.7
1465	1185	Schroders	1373½	- 2½	1.6	15.8
1205	898	Schroders N/V	1175	- 2½	1.9	13.4
134	99½	Singer & Fried†	127		4.2	9.3
729½	547	Stand Chart	670	+ 10	2.2	11.1
115½	85½	Ulster	98½	- 1½	3.8	10.6
£174½	£131¾	Wells Fargo	£164¾		1.9	
352½	264	Westpac	345	+ 11	3.9	11.2
360	268	Woolwich	320	- 2½	4.9	16.0

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
151	109	Adwest†	135½	+ 1	7.2	28.9
295	180	Airflow Stream†	196½		5.1	8.4
753¾	473	Avon Rubber	681½		3.3	16.6
101	57½	BSG†	99½		4.1	15.5
353	257	Bostrom†	284		3.2	10.9
29	15	Boustead#	16½		7.6	38.7
307	175	ERF	299		1.9	
639	431	First Tech	636½		1.7	21.2
1186	778	GKN	1107½	- 7½	2.8	19.2
3800	2850	General Mtrs	3287½		3.0	
669	497	Hardys	578½		2.8	14.7
1768¾	1312¾	Honda Motor	1537	+ 22½	0.5	
502	386	Laird†	446½		3.4	13.5
475	425	Lasles	475		0.3	
260	172	LucasVarity	249			
148½	91	Mayflower▼	142¼	- ¼	1.8	40.4
193	145	Sytone	156½		4.6	12.2
187	120½	T & N†	125	- ½	8.0	8.8
433	252½	Trinity Hldgs	284½		3.7	14.3

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
172½	98	Johnson Fry†	149		3.4	6.6
395	326	Liberty Intl	391		4.8	22.2
299½	218	Lon Forfaiting	284	- 3½	4.6	12.4
261	215	London Pacific	229	- 1½	7.7	10.8
117	87½	Lon Scot Bk	95	- 1	3.5	17.9
186	139	Man ED & F	167½	- 1	7.5	8.3
1354	1059	M & G	1102½	- 3½	3.9	20.5
1150	841	MAM	1125	- 3	4.4	18.7
109	90½	Nat Home Loan	102		1.2	4.5
2575	1830	Perpetual	2395	- 5	2.5	21.3
500	395	Provident†	459½	- 1½	4.1	17.3
336	310	Rathbone Brs	332½		4.1	14.4
60½	37½	Rutland Tst†	54		2.9	16.0
99	42	SEC Group	98½		5.4	19.3
457	280	S & U†	413	..	5.0	10.4
57	33	Towry Law	45			
8	5	Trio Hldgs	5½			

PHARMACEUTICALS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
350	163½	Brit Biotech	220	+ 16½		
715	340	Cantab Pharms	585			
603	441	Celltech	480	- 8½		
588	224	Chiroscience	360	+ 1½		
447	166	Cortecs	205	+ 9½		
1034½	767	Glaxo Wellc	956	- 5½	3.9	13.6
475	252	ML Laboratories£	274½			
286	208	Medeva	265	- 1	2.0	15.0
248	175½	Peptide Thera	208½			
808	524	Scotia	595			
266	193	Shire Pharms	193½			29.3
96	69	ShyePharma	83½			
838	628½	SmithKline	764½	- 1½	2.5	27.5
532	485	Therp Anti Inc	470	- 15		
633	457½	Vanguard	497½			
1768½	1216	Zeneca	1618½	+ ½	2.5	35.2

PRINTING & PAPER

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
158	130	AG Holdings	151½		5.0	
735	547	API	715	- 5	1.8	23.7
140	86½	App Holo	89½	+ 1		
272	158	Arjo Wiggins†	167	- 1	5.6	
296	122½	Aspen Comms£†	145	+ 7	5.4	11.4
427½	339	Bemrose†	407½	- 1	4.5	13.6
209½	138	Blagden	208½	+ 3½	1.4	17.7
2725	2057½	Bowater Inc	2096¼	- 21¼		
346½	209½	Bunzl? Boxmore Intl†	308½		1.1	24.4
770	645	Br Polythene†	728½		3.0	15.6
39	16	Br Thornton	18½	- ½		
163	132	Brittain Grp†	154½		2.5	13.2
245½	191	Bunzl†	234	+ ½	3.2	14.5
207½	170½	Capital Inds▼	183½	+ 1	3.7	12.7
368½	279	Cropper (James)	351½		1.4	27.7
755	575	De La Rue	586	+ 5	5.1	13.8
95	73	Delyn Group#	75		3.4	14.9
182½	131	Dolphin Pack†	182½	+ 3	4.0	14.8
117½	80½	Fairway Group	81½		6.1	13.4
267	190	Ferguson Intl†	240		6.9	12.7
275	146	Filofax†	155½		2.7	9.7
177	112	Inveresk	148		4.9	13.3
310	186½	Jarvis Porter	192½		4.4	9.6
574	451½	Low & Bonar	451½		3.8	12.5
118½	66	MY Holdings	108½		2.8	
263	194	Macfarlane	197½		2.5	16.6
134	96½	Nobo Go	96½		8.0	7.2
404	282	Photobition	338½		3.4	19.0
201	158	Plysu	164½		5.6	17.1
41	29½	Porter Chadbn	29½	- 3	1.1	10.6
410	325	REXAM†	341	+ 3½	5.2#	
512½	425½	St Ives Grp	470		2.7	17.2
1047½	511½	Sappi	513½	+ 2½	0.8	
8	2½	Seril	3			
148	82	Sidlaw	106		6.8	17.6
344	254	Smith David	318½		2.9	10.5
184	147	Smurfit (Jeff)†	167½		2.9	5.9

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
522	258	Lloyds Chemi	511½		2.5	19.2
209½	149½	MFI	197	- ½	2.8	23.2
533	416½	Marks Spencer	484	- 1½	3.0	19.8
635	525	Menzies (John)†	588		2.9	14.7
21½	15½	Merchant Retail	20			
1305	615	Moss Bros†	1150		2.1	23.4
603½	420	Next	545½	- 4½	3.0	22.3
63	31½	Owen Owen (6)	42	- 5		
562	400	Ordtame Wll	548½	...	2.7	18.3
85½	66	Partridge Fine	75		3.8	12.7
56	32	QS Hldgs	38½		5.1	
299½	191	Rosebys	286½	- 6	2.7	21.5
105	85½	Sears†	87		5.7	70.9
34	14½	Signet Group	25½			
534	399	Smith WH	447½	- 2½	4.4	
1070	820	Sothebys	1060	- 5	1.8	
362	278	Storehouse	285	- ½	3.2	16.2
157	90	Stylo	152	..	3.8	23.6
231	165½	T & S Stores†	180		5.1	11.5
410	234	Thorn	349	+ 7	4.7	18.7
184½	150	Tie Rack	184		1.9	18.3
4	2½	Upton & South	3½			35.9
664	542	Vendome	569	- 5	2.2	20.6
29½	12	WEW Group	28			
141	66	Wickes#	69	..	3.8	
94	52	Wld of Leather	69½	+ 1	3.1	
235¼	198	Wyevale	235½		3.1	17.6

SUPPORT SERVICES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1550	883	ADT	1150			
337½	314½	AEA Tech	325½	- ½	2.9	13.2
135	92	Alpha Airpts†	105		6.0	13.4
38	26	Alphameric	34	+ 1		
307½	215	Amec WS	307½	+ 1	2.4	24.8
190	129	BNB Rest	164		5.2	8.9
400	283	BPP†	360½		4.0	17.4
203	155	BSM	193		4.6	12.8
2675	1015	BTG	2537½	+ 2½	0.2	
1350	400	Borland£	500			
189	123	Brit Data Mgt	173½		3.9	20.9
110½	80	Brooks Service†	97½		4.1	15.6
488	373	Business Post	461½		2.4	26.6
807½	329	CMG†	785	+ 10	1.0	35.3
274½	111½	CRT Grp†	272½	- 1	1.9	34.7
958¼	187	Cairo Gp	657½		0.6	5.1
432½	285	Capita Group	422½	+ 2½	1.4	35.0
10½	5½	Charmer	5½	- ¼	3.4	9.6
386	312½	Chubb Sec	318½	- 3	3.3	15.8
195½	92	Corp Services	169½		3.3	20.6
59½	46	Coutts Cnsltg	55		4.9	17.7
255½	73	DCS Grp	248½	+ 1	0.8	31.3
276½	202½	Davis Service	251½	- 3½	4.8	13.6
605	367	Delphi†	606		0.9	21.1
170	98	Dudley Jenkins	166		2.3	22.6
82	38	EW Fact†	62½	- 2	3.3	9.6
116	61½	El Data Prc	70½		3.8	10.2
435	245	FI Group	422½		1.2	36.8
520	362	Hays†	514		2.0	23.1
288	210	Hogg Robinson	264½		4.1	13.1
542	360	JBA Hldgs†	497½	- 1½	1.0	29.8
311	256	Johnson Clean	275	+ 1	5.1	11.5
149	103	Kalamazoo	115½		4.5	12.7
500	351	Kewill Sys	471½		2.1	14.0
347	57	LBMS£	61	+ 1		
41	13	Laser-Scan	24½	+ 1		
139	90	Leigh	125		3.9	
815	452	Logica†	807½		1.2	30.2
99	68	Lyon Hldgs	82	- 2½	2.4	17.4
92	36½	MDIS	38½	+ ½	3.9	
587	346	MMT Comp	531½		2.1	
101	66	MR Group†	85		5.3	15.7
520	398	Macro 4	497½		6.1	13.2
2329¾	1740½	Manpower	1740½	- 6¼	0.5	
90	77½	Menmore Abbey	83½	+ 1		67.2
1340	553	Micro Focus	887½			
192	141	Microgen	148½		6.4	10.1
927	570	Misys	934		1.4	21.0
192½	124	MITIE Gp	175		1.0	27.8
41	32	Novo Group	37½		4.7	9.8

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BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
103¼	100¼	Conv 10% 1996	100⅝		9.99	7.16
101	100	Treas 7% 1997	100		6.97	6.45
107	100	Treas 13¼% 1997	101	-	13.07	6.15
107	100	Exch 10½% 1997	101¼	-	10.38	6.22
107	101	Treas 8¾% 1997	101	-	8.60	6.46
114	107	Exch 15% 1997	107	-	13.91	6.49
105	100	Exch 9¾% 1998	103	-	9.42	6.64
103	100	Treas 7¼% 1998	100		7.20	6.71
119	110	Treas 14% 1998-01	110	-	12.69	6.81
122	115	Treas 15½% 1998	115	-	13.48	6.86
114	109	Exch 12% 1998	109	-	10.97	6.93
109	104	Treas 9½% 1999	104	-	9.05	6.96
116	110	Exch 12¼% 1999	111	-	11.01	6.98
112	107	Treas 10½% 1999	108	+	9.72	7.01
99	96	Treas 6% 1999	97	+	6.14	6.95
112	108	Conv 10¼% 1999	108		9.46	7.11
106	103	Conv 9% 2000	105	-	8.54	7.12
105	101	Treas 8% 2000	102	+	7.79	7.22
124	118	Treas 13% 2000	118	-	11.08	7.24
114	100	Treas 10% 2001	109		9.11	7.30

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101	96	Treas 7% 2001	98	+	7.09	7.31
114	108	Treas 9¾% 2002	110	+	8.81	7.45
105	99	Treas 8% 2003	102	+	7.79	7.48
117	39	Treas 10% 2003	113	+	8.85	7.52
121	114	Treas 11½% 2001-04	115	-	9.99	7.39
84	79	Fund 3½% 1999-04	82	-	4.27	6.38
114	107	Conv 9½% 2004	111	+	8.55	7.60
97	91	Treas 6¾% 2004	95	+	7.10	7.58
108	101	Treas 8½% 2005	105	+	8.07	7.65
114	108	Conv 9½% 2005	111	+	8.54	7.66
131½	123	Treas 12½% 2003-05	126	+	9.87	7.54
101	94	Treas 7¾% 2006	98	+	7.80	7.67
103	96	Treas 7¾% 2006	100	+	7.73	7.70
104	97	Treas 8% 2002-06	101	+	7.87	7.61
125	118	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	120	+	9.76	7.54
108	101	Treas 8½% 2007	105	+	8.06	7.73
112	103	Treas 9% 2008	109	+	8.23	7.77
104	96	Treas 8% 2009	101	+	7.87	7.82

LONGS (over 15 years)

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
88	81	Treas 6¼% 2010	86	+	7.26	7.89
112	104	Conv 9% 2011	109	+	8.27	7.88
113	104	Treas 9% 2012	109	+	8.20	7.90
82	75	Treas 5½% 2008-12	80	-	6.84	7.65
103	95	Treas 8% 2013	100	+	7.95	7.92
101	93	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	98	+	7.84	7.92
103	95	Treas 8% 2015	100	+	7.93	7.91
111	102	Treas 8¾% 2017	107	+	8.11	7.98
141	132	Exch 12% 2013-17	137	+	8.71	7.97
103	95	Tr 8% 2021	100	+	7.92	7.90

UNDATED

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
45½	41	War Ln 3½%	43	-	7.97	
32	29	Treas 2½%	31	+	7.88	
50	46	Consols 4%	49	+	8.16	

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	10%	5%
114	111	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	113	-	0.70	2.47
185	176	Treas IL 2½% 2001	184	+	2.76	3.31
181	171	Treas IL 2½% 2003	180	+	2.99	3.40
119	112	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	117	+	3.06	3.42
191	179	Treas IL 2% 2006	189	+	3.21	3.49
172	161	Treas IL 2½% 2009	170	+	3.33	3.56
177	166	Treas IL 2½% 2011	175	+	3.39	3.60
146	136	Treas IL 2½% 2013	144	+	3.44	3.62
155	145	Treas IL 2½% 2016	153	+	3.49	3.66
149	138	Treas IL 2½% 2020	147	+	3.55	3.69
124	115	Treas IL 2½% 2024	122	+	3.55	3.68
122	113	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	120	+	3.56	3.68

WATER

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
631	512	Anglian	573½	+ 9	6.9	6.6
795	656	Hyder	725½	+ 9½	6.7	10.5
109	96	Hyder Cnv Pf	104½	+ ½	9.4	
605	420	Mid Kent Hdgs	597½		5.0	10.3
689	518	Severn Trent	635½	- 9	6.4	7.1
2735	2375	South Staffs	2730		3.5	14.4
751	499	South West	5[illegible]	- 1	6.6	
599	526½	Thames†	561½	+ 8	6.7	7.3
633	525	Utd Utilities	592½	+ 10	6.1	11.9
374	295	Wessex	361½	+ 5	5.4	
791	550	Yorkshire	640½	+ 10½	6.0	9.0

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
87½	18	Abacus Recruit	84½			23.1
210	96	Cafe Inns	159½		1.9	13.1
145½	58	Country Gdns	145½	+ ½	1.2	15.0
1700	960	Dawson Hdgs	1675		2.4	14.7
39½	14	Freepages	38			
117	92	Megalomedia	96½			
475	22½	Memory Corp	22½	- 2½		
180	85½	Old English Pub†	174½		1.1	54.9
560	292½	Pet City	492½			
595	520	Southern News	560		4.0	16.0
79½	50	Southern Vectis	70½	- 4	3.4	16.3
342	132	Surrey Fr Invst	335		0.9	
79½	36	Trocadero	54			

Source: FT Information

☼ USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; * Figures or report awaited; .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

BOXING

Benn will struggle to find answers in final showdown

By Andrew Longmore

VIEWERS of a *Question of Sport* might have found it difficult to name the new face on Ally McCoist's team. The Irish accent provided a clue, but not the charming, witty manner. A boxer, surely not. Even the razor-sharp McCoist was verbally outshone by Steve Collins, the World Boxing Organisation (WBO) super-middleweight champion.

"I really enjoyed the show," Collins said yesterday. "People see me in the ring when I'm very aggressive, but every so often they see me being myself, relaxed and natural. Maybe it surprised a few people."

Collins, it seems, has been surprising everyone but himself for the past two years. Not many boxers find the honeypot after the age of 30, but the Celtic Warrior has done his time and is all the more dangerous for having experienced every stage of a world champion's evolution.

"He loves all the attention," Freddy Roach, his diminutive American trainer, said. "I take my hat off to him. I fought as a pro for ten years and you get old and go through the motions. Stevie's still very hungry. He's like a young kid, very fresh." Though only six months younger than Benn, at 32, he has endured 11 fewer contests.

The accepted opinion is that, tonight, in front of a sell-out crowd of 22,000 at the Nynex Arena in Manchester, Nigel Benn will bear the brunt of all the champion's years of anonymity even more starkly than he did four months ago in their first encounter, which ended in defeat for Benn amid predictable controversy. The Englishman retired in the fourth round claiming a twisted ankle. Many thought a broken heart was the more significant injury. Courage has never been wanting in the Dark Destroyer, but Collins, with his suffocating, slugger's style, reminded Benn of himself in his best days and that was too much to take.

Benn retired from the ring for the second time after that defeat, only to be lured into a change of mind by the thought of another big payday and one more night of glory. One of the fears tonight is that another beating will leave precious little mind to be changed.

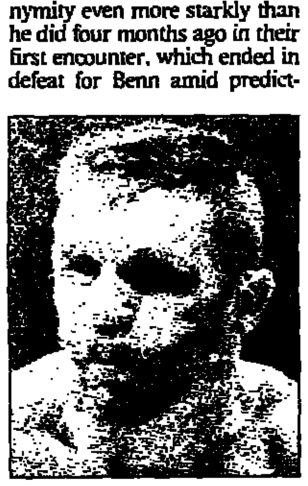
Tyson's task 52

Benn flew into Manchester from his training base in Tenerife only yesterday afternoon in time for the weigh-in. He was perhaps wise not to turn up for his scheduled and contractually-obligatory press conference in the morning. He would have gained little comfort. Without descending to the insults heaped on Remigio Molina by Naseem Hamed the previous day, Collins exuded the terrifying certainty of a man who has calculated all odds and knows he cannot lose.

"I have every respect for Benn," Collins said, "but his fights are in the past, his best days are gone. I see him as a man under pressure. He wants to retire, but others push him into going on. His great asset is supposed to be his punching power, but his punches had no effect on me, so unless he's grown an extra arm, he has nothing to beat me." Only the thought that one last spark might fly from that brooding, unpredictable man will keep the punters from taking the favourite's odds on the champion.

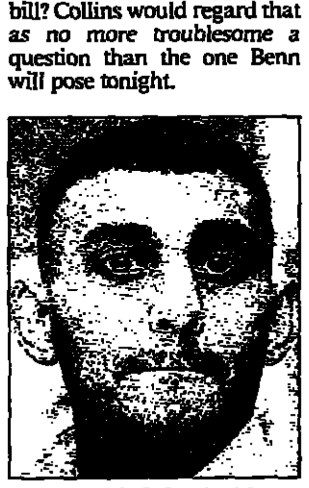
Whatever the outcome, the bout could mark the end of the most captivating and destructive era in the history of the super-middleweight division. Benn and Chris Eubank have survived so far; Michael Watson and McClellan were not so fortunate. If Collins, who once rejected the home town soubriquet, "The Cabra Cobra", on the grounds of embarrassment, emerges from one final night of mayhem on top of a brash heap, it will be a fitting triumph for the old-fashioned virtues of the plodder.

By appearing on a bill that also features Hamed's defence of the WBO featherweight championshiop against the unbeaten, but largely unheralded Molina, of Argentina, and the long-awaited chance for Ensley Bingham, of Britain, to claim the WBO light-middleweight title from the stylish Ronald Wright, of Florida, Collins has already made history. No other show has seen three separate British boxers involved in world title contests on one bill. Who topped the bill? Collins would regard that as no more troublesome a question than the one Benn will pose tonight.



Collins: still hungry

Benn: chasing glory



Hamed: defends title

SHAUN BOTTERILL/ALLSPORT

White plays a stylish drive through the covers during his valuable innings of 61 against South Australia

Butcher leads revival for England

From a Correspondent
in Adelaide

THE England A squad, chosen to tour Australia to explore their potential as future Test players, struggled to display the patience necessary to combat a top-class South Australia attack in difficult conditions at the Oval here yesterday.

Adam Hollioake's decision to bat looked to be a huge miscalculation as the touring team slipped to 46 for four against the holders of the Sheffield Shield, whose side had been strengthened by the return of Jason Gillespie and Mark Harrity, the fast bowlers, and Peter McIntyre, the leg spinner, from Australia's tour of India.

Yet England's struggle was caused as much by poor shot selection as the early seaming and swinging conditions and without determined innings from Mark Butcher, Craig White and later Mark Ealham, Ashley Giles and Warren Hegg they would have failed even to reach 232 for nine at the close.

Mike Gatting, the coach, acknowledged: "There was a bit of moisture around and it did seam a bit, but I still think there were one or two shots in our innings that were a little irresponsible. That will lose us matches because the first 20 overs with the new ball over here is very important and, if you can get through that without losing a wicket, you've done well. But if we can get the players appreciating how to play a Test innings by coming on A tours like this, then I think it's all worthwhile."

Butcher's valuable fifth-wicket partnership with White proved the turning point of the innings, with the pair adding 108 runs. Both fell to disappointing shots either side of tea, White lamely driving to mid-off on 61 and Butcher playing straight to mid-wicket, having batted for more than four hours in making his 73.

Ealham and Giles maintained the momentum, both scoring 17, while Hegg contributed an unbeaten 21 to frustrate Harrity's hopes of claiming five wickets on his return.

"Looking at the way it moved around this morning, we would have settled for 250. If we can get somewhere near that we'll be happy, because, if the boys bowl well, we can do the same to them," Gatting said.

SCOREBOARD FROM ADELAIDE

ENGLAND A: First innings

M A Butcher c sub b Scuderi	73
M P Vaughan c Nielsen b Harrity	2
A McGrath c Nielsen b Blewett	5
O A Shah c Siddons b Gillespie	9
*A J Hollioake c Nielsen b Harrity	9
C White c Scuderi b Young	61
M A Ealham c Nielsen b Scuderi	17
†W K Hegg not out	21
A F Giles b Harrity	17
A J Harris lbw b Harrity	0
D W Headley not out	2
Extras (b 1, lb 12, nb 3)	16
Total (9 wkts)	232

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-16, 3-27, 4-46, 5-154, 6-174, 7-191, 8-216, 9-218.

BOWLING: Gillespie 18-8-25-1; Harrity 23-7-81-4; Blewett 13-1-50-1; McIntyre 23-11-40-0; Young 12-4-17-1; Scuderi 8-2-26-2.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: G S Blewett, B A Johnson, *J D Siddons, D S Lehmann, J A Brayshaw, J C Scuderi, †T J Nielsen, B E Young, J N Gillespie, P E McIntyre, M A Harrity.

Umpires: A J Hunter and R G Kinnear.

Warne on course to return against West Indies

SHANE WARNE, the Australia leg spinner, survived the first serious examination of his injured finger before the first Test match against West Indies by taking two wickets for Victoria, against New South Wales, in a Sheffield Shield match at the Sydney Cricket Ground yesterday.

Warne bowled 20 overs, his heaviest workload since he underwent surgery in May to repair ligament damage in his bowling hand. Making his first-class debut as captain of Victoria, Warne took the wickets of Anthony Stuart and Stuart MacGill, both tailenders, and finished with figures of two for 40. He also took a sharp catch at first slip to dismiss David Freedman.

"I thought I bowled pretty well and it was good to bowl 20 overs," Warne said. "They came out pretty well and I didn't bowl much short stuff. The real key is how my finger pulls up tomorrow. Hopefully, it pulls up well and I'll be able to bowl again in a couple of days' time."

While Warne alerted the Australia selectors to his return to fitness, Adam Gilchrist, the wicketkeeper, pressed his claims to be included in the first Test in two weeks with a 98-ball century off the West Indies attack in Perth yesterday. Gilchrist made 108 not out from 101 balls as Western Australia declared at 293 for six.

Giddins's plea for clemency rejected

By Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent

CRICKET reinforced its defences against drug-taking yesterday and denied Ed Giddins a short-cut return to the game. The appeal of the former Sussex fast bowler against his 18-month suspension for taking cocaine was rejected by the Cricket Council, an arguably harsh decision but nonetheless consistent with the line of the Test and County Cricket Board.

Giddins appealed against the length of his ban after receiving substantial sympathy for a verdict that seemed disproportionate to the offence. Michael Lawrence, his solicitor, said: "Our grounds for the appeal were that the original decision was too severe."

Yet the five-man panel of the Cricket Council, chaired by Desmond Perrett, QC, and sitting for the last time before its integration into the new English Cricket Board, could find no grounds for leniency. "We confidently arrived at the conclusion that the sentence must be confirmed," its statement read.

Giddins, 25, must therefore maintain fitness, ambition and enthusiasm until the start of the 1998 season if he is to resume a fast-bowling career that, having already achieved one England A tour, had clear international potential. By then, he will have paid a more severe penalty for social foolishness than other sportsmen have had to pay for calculated attempts to gain supremacy by cheating with drugs.

Nobody has seriously suggested that Giddins, a maverick character prone to social excesses, sought to enhance his bowling through cocaine. His punishment, compounded by his subsequent hasty dismissal from the Sussex staff, is a direct result of cricket's determination to distance itself from all forms of drug-taking.

The ban, though not officially enforced outside England, has discouraged overseas clubs from taking on Giddins and although a number of counties have approached him with interest in his long-term future, an imminent deal is unlikely now that his return is so distant. For the next few weeks, at least, Giddins will take his disillusionment into new employment, selling Christmas trees.

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
Pools coupon numbers in brackets

World Cup
European qualifying group two
(-) Georgia v England
(at Boris Paichadze Stadium, 12.0)

Group seven
(-) Holland v Wales
(at Philips Stadium, Eindhoven, 7.0)

Group nine
(-) Germany v Northern Ireland
(at Nuremberg Stadium, 4.30)

European under-21 championship
Group four
(-) Scotland v Sweden
(at Tannadice)

Group eight
(-) Ireland v Iceland
(at Dalymount Park, 7.45)

Nationwide League
First division
(1) Barnsley v Norwich .... P
(2) Charlton v Grimsby .... P
(3) Ipswich v Southend
(4) Oldham v Portsmouth
(5) Reading v Tranmere .... P
(6) Stoke v Wolverhampton .... P
(7) West Bromwich v Port Vale

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bolton	16	11	4	1	37	20	37
Norwich	16	9	4	3	25	14	31
C Palace	16	8	6	2	36	13	30
Barnsley	15	7	6	2	27	18	27
Wolvrhmptn	17	7	5	5	22	17	26
Sheff Utd	14	7	4	3	29	16	25
Tranmere	17	7	4	6	25	20	25
Swindon	16	7	2	7	24	19	23
Stoke	15	6	5	4	22	26	23
Oxford Utd	16	6	4	6	20	13	22
QPR	17	5	7	5	20	21	22
Port Vale	17	5	7	5	16	19	22
Portsmth	17	5	4	8	20	24	19
West Brom	16	4	7	4	18	22	19
* Huddersfld	15	5	4	6	17	21	19
Southend	17	4	7	6	17	27	19
Man City	15	6	1	8	16	21	19
Ipswich	16	4	6	6	20	23	18
Reading	16	5	3	8	19	27	18
Birmingham	14	4	5	5	15	17	17
Charlton	14	5	2	7	14	21	17
Oldham	17	3	5	9	19	23	14
Grimsby	17	3	4	10	18	36	13
* Bradford	17	3	4	10	11	29	13

* not including last night's match

Second division
(8) Blackpool v Bournemouth
(9) Brentford v Stockport
(10) Bristol City v Millwall
(11) Burnley v Crewe
(12) Bury v York
(13) Chesterfield v Preston
(—) Gillingham v Wrexham
(14) Luton v Notts County
(15) Rotherham v Watford
(16) Shrewsbury v Bristol Rovers .... P
(17) Walsall v Peterborough
(18) Wycombe v Plymouth

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Millwall	17	10	4	3	29	19	34
Brentford	17	9	5	3	28	19	32
Crewe	17	10	1	6	23	15	31
Bury	17	8	6	3	22	15	30
Watford	17	8	6	3	20	15	30
Wrexham	16	7	8	1	24	17	29
Bristol City	17	8	4	5	32	19	28
Luton	16	8	4	4	24	18	28
Chestrfld	17	8	3	6	15	14	27
Stockport	17	7	5	5	21	20	26
Bristol R	17	6	7	4	16	13	25
Burnley	17	7	3	7	23	21	24
York	17	6	4	7	21	23	22
Plymouth	17	5	6	6	21	23	21
Shrewsbury	17	5	5	7	18	23	20
Gillingham	17	5	4	8	17	22	19
Blackpool	17	4	7	6	16	18	19
Peterboro	17	3	8	6	25	30	17
Notts Co	17	4	5	8	13	18	17
Bournemth	17	5	2	10	13	21	17
Preston	17	4	4	9	15	20	16
Walsall	17	4	4	9	15	23	16
Rotherham	17	3	4	10	18	26	13
Wycombe	17	2	6	10	14	29	11

FA CARLSBERG VASE: First round replay: Oadby v Long Buckby
LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth v Briton Ferry; Caersws v Porthmadog; Connah's Quay v Carmarthen Town; Holywell v Bangor City; Llansantffraid v Flint Town; Newtown v Barry; Rhyl v Cwmbran; Ton Pentre v Cemaes Bay.

Third division
(19) Barnet v Rochdale
(20) Brighton v Mansfield
(21) Cambridge Utd v Swansea
(22) Cardiff v Fulham
(23) Chester v Hull
(24) Exeter v Leyton Orient
(25) Lincoln v Darlington
(26) Northampton v Carlisle
(27) Scarborough v Hartlepool
(28) Scunthorpe v Doncaster
(29) Torquay v Colchester
(30) Wigan v Hereford

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fulham	17	12	1	4	28	13	37
Camb Utd	17	10	3	4	26	20	33
Wigan	17	10	2	5	29	20	32
Scarboro	17	7	8	2	27	19	29
Carlisle	17	8	5	4	22	16	29
Torquay	17	8	4	5	22	16	28
Cardiff	16	8	4	4	20	14	28
Chester	16	7	4	5	19	18	25
Barnet	17	6	7	4	16	11	25
Lincoln	17	7	3	7	23	24	24
Hull	17	5	8	4	16	19	23
Northmptn	17	6	4	7	23	18	22
Rochdale	17	5	7	5	21	19	22
Hereford	17	6	3	8	19	21	21
Scunthrpe	17	6	3	8	19	23	21
Colchester	17	4	8	5	19	22	20
Swansea	17	5	5	7	17	22	20
L Orient	17	5	5	7	11	14	20
Mansfield	17	4	7	6	17	19	19
Doncaster	17	5	3	9	18	22	18
Exeter	17	5	2	10	15	24	17
Darlington	17	4	4	9	22	30	16
Hartlpool	17	4	3	10	16	23	15
Brighton	17	3	3	11	14	32	12

Vauxhall Conference
(31) Bath v Halifax
(32) Bromsgrove v Stevenage
(33) Farnborough v Kettering
(34) Gateshead v Welling
(35) Hayes v Stalybridge
(36) Hednesford v Altrincham
(—) Rushden and Diamonds v Dover
(—) Slough v Kidderminster
(—) Southport v Macclesfield
(—) Telford v Morecambe
(—) Woking v Northwich

Bell's Scottish League
First division
(37) Airdrie v Dundee
(38) Falkirk v Stirling
(39) St Mirren v Clydebank

Second division
(40) Ayr v Stenhousemuir
(41) Brechin v Livingston
(42) Dumbarton v Clyde
(43) Hamilton v Stranraer
(44) Queen of South v Berwick

Third division
(45) Alloa v Ross County
(46) Arbroath v Montrose
(47) Forfar v East Stirling
(48) Inverness CT v Albion
(49) Queen's Park v Cowdenbeath

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Gloucester v Crawley; Gresley v Sudbury Tn; Halesowen v Chelmsford; Hastings v Merthyr; Newport AFC v Burton; Worcester City v Cheltenham. Midland division: RC Warwick v Hinckley Town; Rothwell v Dudley Town, Sutton Coldfield Town v Corby. Southern division: Buckingham Town v Fleet T; Fareham v Cinderford; Newport (IoW) v Trowbridge; Tonbridge Angels v Cirencester Town.

ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Boreham Wood v Harrow; Dulwich v Kingstonian; Enfield v Yeovil; Purfleet v Hitchin; St Albans v Dagenham and Redbridge. First division: Abingdon Town v Worthing; Barton Rovers v Croydon; Uxbridge v Canvey Island; Whyteleafe v Thame. Second division: Cheshunt v Windsor and Eton, Edgware v Collier Row and Romford; Egham v Dorking, Hemel Hempstead v Metropolitan Police, Horsham v Wivenhoe; Hungerford v Banstead, Leatherhead v Barking; Tilbury v Chalfont St Peter. Witham v Wembley. Third division: Braintree v Tring; Clapton v Northwood; Epsom and Ewell v Harlow; Hornchurch v Wealdstone; Kingsbury v Camberley; Lewes v Aveley; Southall v Hertford; Wingate and Finchley v East Thurrock.

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Arlesey v Harpenden; Bedford v Buckingham Athletic; Brache Sparta v Toddington; Hoddesdon v London Colney; Royston v Potters Bar; Welwyn Garden v Letchworth.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Accrington Stanley v Emley; Blyth Spartans v Boston; Chorley v Bishop Auckland; Colwyn Bay v Gainsborough; Guiseley v Bamber Bridge; Hyde v Leek; Marine v Runcorn; Spennymoor v Barrow; Witton v Alfreton. First division: Ashton United v Radcliffe; Atherton LR v Warrington, Gretna v Leigh; Netherfield v Matlock Town.

FA UMBRO TROPHY: Second qualifying round: Moor Green v Ilkeston; Workington v Redditch, Farsley Celtic v Worksop; Stocksbridge Park Steels v Shepshed D, Buxton v Eastwood Town, Congleton v Solihull; Whitley Bay v Bradford Park Avenue; Bilston v Great Harwood; Lancaster v Droylsden, Lincoln United v Frickley; Grantham v Winsford, Curzon Ashton v Bedworth; Knowsley v Flixton; Heybridge Swifts v Grays, Oxford City v Basingstoke; Weymouth v Clevedon; Aylesbury v Sittingbourne, Salisbury v Witney; Weston-super-Mare v Raunds T; Forest Green v Cambridge City; Maidenhead v Bromley; Aldershot Town v Chesham; Hendon v Sutton United, Hampton v St Leonards Stamcroft; Fisher v Havant; Dartford v Tooting and Mitcham; Wokingham v Leyton Pennant; Billericay v Dorchester; Staines v King's Lynn; Ashford v Bishop's Stortford; Baldock v Evesham.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Basildon U v Great Wakering

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Barkingside v Haringey; Cockfosters v Amersham; Croydon v Ruislip Manor; Harefield v Woodford; Islington St Marys v Brook House, Tottenham Omada v Hanwell; Waltham Abbey v Beaconsfield SYCOB. Senior Cup: Group D: St Margaretsbury v Brimsdown.

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ash v Sandhurst; Bedfont v Walton Casuals; Cobham v Cove; Corinthian-Casuals v Ashford; Cranleigh v Westfield. Farnham v Chipstead; Feltham v Netherne, Hartley Wintney v Reading; Raynes Park Vale v Godalming and Guildford

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Backwell v Bristol Manor Farm; Barnstaple v Mangotsfield, Brislington v Odd Down; Paulton R v Chard, Torrington v Chippenham, Westbury v Bridgwater.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Diss v Warboys; Fakenham v Soham; Felixstowe P and T v Clacton; Gorleston v Bury Town, Harwich and Parkeston v March, Lowestoft v Wisbech. Newmarket v Wroxham; Stowmarket v Woodbridge, Sudbury Res v Great Yarmouth, Tiptree v Hadleigh U

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Canterbury v Chatham, Corinthian v Crockenhill, Cray v Deal, Faversham v Ramsgate; Hythe v Thamesmead, Lordswood v Herne Bay; Slade Green v Folkestone Invicta; Tunbridge Wells v Sheppey; Whitstable v Greenwich, Woolwich v Furness.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Totton v Romsey, Brockenhurst v Aerostructures; Cowes Sports v Whitchurch; Downton v Bournemouth, East Cowes v Eastleigh; Gosport v Wimborne town, Portsmouth v Bemerton Heath; Ryde Sports v Lymington; Thatcham v BAT.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Arundel v Eastbourne Town; Burgess Hill v Horsham YMCA; Hailsham v Whitehawk; Mile Oak v Portfield; Pagham v Oakwood; Southwick v Ringmer.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Abingdon United v Brackley; Almondsbury v Wantage; Banbury v Didcot; Endsleigh v North Leigh, Lambourn Sports v Burnham; Shortwood v Highworth; Swindon Supermarine v Kintbury; Tuffley v Bicester.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cogenhoe v Long Buckby; Kempston v Desborough; Newport Pagnell v St Neots; Northampton Spencer v Wellingborough; S and L Corby v Ford Sports. Cup: First round: Bisworth v Stotfold; Olney v Vanaid; Shambrook v Boston.

INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Barwell v Bridgnorth; Knypersley V v Sandwell. Industrial Rewinds League Cup: Second round: Bloxwich Town v Pershore T; Boldmere St Michaels v Halesowen Harr; Oldbury U v Blakenhall; Rushall v Rocester; Stapenhill v Shifnal T; Stratford T v Hinckley Athletic; West Midlands Police v Chasetown; Willenhall v Pelsall V

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Coleshill v Studley BKL; Coventry Sphinx v Knowle, Massey Ferguson v David Lloyd; Meir KA v Kenilworth, Richmond Swifts v Highgate; Southam v Bolehall S. Wellesbourne v Handrahan Timbers; Worcester v Bilston Community College.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Bloxwich S v Brierley Hill T, Darlaston v Cradley Town; Gornal Res v Ludlow T, Hill Top R v Wednesfield; Lye Town v Tividale; Malvern T v Walsall Wood; Stourport S v Ettingshall Ht; Westfields v Wolverhampton United: Wolverhampton C v Stafford T

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Atherton Collieries v St Helens, Blackpool Rovers v Eastwood H; Bootle v Chadderton; Burscough v Kidsgrove, Clitheroe v Penrith; Glossop North End v Rossendale, Nantwich v Maine Road; Newcastle Town v Darwen; Prescot Cables v Mossley; Salford v Trafford; Vauxhall GM v Holker Old Boys.

FA YOUTH CUP: First round: Oxford United v Cardiff.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Crook v West Auckland; Guisborough v Chester-le-Street; Morpeth v Dunston Federation; Murton v Tow Law; RTM Newcastle v Whitby; Shildon v Durham; Stockton v Bedlington Terriers; Whickham v Billingham.

FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Bray v Derry (2.30); Cork v Shamrock (2.30); Finn Harps v Sligo (7.30); UCD v Bohemians.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Cliftonville v Ards (2.0); Coleraine v Crusaders (2.0); Glentoran v Linfield (2.0). First division: Ballyclare v Carrick (2.0); Bangor v Newry (2.0); Distillery v Larne (2.0); Omagh v Ballymena (1.0).

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Armthorpe Wel v Ossett Albion; Ashfield v Hucknall; Arnold v North Ferriby; Brigg Town v Thackley; Hallam v Selby; Liversedge v Hatfield Main; Ossett Town v Denaby; Pickering v Glasshoughton Wel; Pontefract Cols v Belper Town.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: League Cup: Charlton v Tottenham (at The Valley, 2.0).

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Liverpool v Sheffield Wednesday; Nottingham Forest v Manchester United (2.0)

PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Buckie Thistle v Elgin; Cove v Wick Academy; Deveronvale v Huntly; Fort William v Brora; Fraserburgh v Forres Mechanics; Keith v Nairn County; Lossiemouth v Clachnacuddin; Rothes v Peterhead

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Cambridge United v Fulham (11.0); Charlton v Ipswich (11.0); Chelsea v QPR (11.0); Gillingham v Tottenham (10.45); Leyton Orient v Watford (11.0); Norwich v Portsmouth (11.0); Southend v Arsenal (11.0); West Ham v Millwall (11.0). Second division: Bristol Rovers v Bristol City (11.0); Colchester v Brighton (12.0); Luton v Barnet (11.0); Reading v Brentford (11.0); Southampton v Bournemouth (11.0); Swindon v Crystal Palace (11.0); Tottenham v Wycombe (11.0).

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Carthusians v Wykehamists; Foresters v Lancing.

OLD BOYS' LEAGUE: Premier division: O Kingsburians v Latymer OB.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior one: Hale End Ath v Albanian; St Mary's Coll v Witan; Wandsworth Borough v Nottsborough.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: First division: South Bank v Nat West Bank; West Wickham v O Parmiterians.

SCHOOLS MATCHES (kick-off 10.30 unless stated): FA Premier League Trophy: Under-19: South Yorkshire v Durham (11.0); Northumberland v Cumbria (11.0). Under-16: South Yorkshire v Durham (11.0); Northumberland v Cumbria (11.0). Hawks Trophy: Islington v Harrow. Corinthian Shield: Aldershot v Croydon; Basildon v Havering. Essex Clark Cup: Havering v Barking (10.0). Newham v Waltham Forest (10.45); Redbridge v Basildon. Sun Shield: Harlow v South London. Gill Shield: Croydon v Brent. Pear Trophy: Islington v Hackney. Southern League: Reading v North Somerset; Southampton v Oxford; Vale of White Horse v Mid Oxon. Crisp Shield: Thurrock v Havering. Taylor Trophy: North Kent v Shepway. Black Cup: Sutton v Croydon. Mayes League: Gosport v Aldershot. Yorkshire Trophy: Bradford v Leeds; Sheffield v Hull. Star Shield: Harrow v Barnet. Charlton Cup: Gosport v Portsmouth. West Yorkshire League: Sheffield v Hull. West Midlands League: Telford v Wolverhampton. Currey Cup: North Tyne v Newcastle; East Northumberland v Berwick; Walsend v South Northumberland. Woodward Cup: Wirral v Liverpool. Alcock Cup: Macclesfield v Kirkby Knowsley. Inter-association: Ashford v Medway; Blackburn v Rossendale; Brent v Mid Oxon; Chester v Wigan; Gloucester v Luton; Gosport v Watford; Nottingham v Derby; Sheffield v Hull.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 2.30

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Beverley v Heworth; Leigh Miners v Woolston; Mayfield v Egremont; Saddleworth v Dudley Hill; West Hull v Lock Lane; Wigan St Patrick's v Oldham St Anne's. First division: Blackbrook v Oulton; East Leeds v Leigh East; Eastmoor v Thornhill; Millom v Askam; Moldgreen v Wigan St Jude's; Walney Central v Barrow Island. Second division: Eccles v New Earswick; Ovenden v Hull Dockers; Redhill v Milford; Shaw Cross v Featherstone Amateur; Skirlaugh v Normanton; York Acorn v Dewsbury Moor.

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

Royal Bank of Scotland international
Scotland v Australia
(at Murrayfield)

Tour match
Munster v Western Samoa XV
(at Musgrave Park, 2.30)

Courage Clubs Championship
First division
Northampton v Bath
Sale v Orrell
West Hartlepool v Gloucester
POSTPONED: Bristol v Leicester; Harlequins v Saracens; London Irish v Wasps

Second division
London Scottish v Bedford
Moseley v Coventry
Rugby v Nottingham
Wakefield v Richmond (2.30)
Waterloo v Blackheath (2.15)
POSTPONED: Newcastle v Rotherham.

Third division
Exeter v Clifton
Harrogate v Morley (2.15)
Leeds v Redruth
London Welsh v Lydney (2.30)
Otley v Walsall (2.15)
Reading v Liverpool St Helens (2.30)
Rosslyn Park v Havant (2.30)
Wharfedale v Fylde (2.30)

Fourth division north
Birmingham/Solihull v Lichfield (2.30)
Kendal v Preston Grasshoppers (2.30)
Manchester v Winnington Park (2.30)
Nuneaton v Aspatria (2.30)
Stoke-on-Trent v Hereford (2.30)
Stourbridge v Sheffield (2.30)
Worcester v Sandal (2.30)

Fourth division south
Askeans v Tabard (2.30)
Barking v Metropolitan Police (2.30)
Berry Hill v Henley (2.30)
Charlton Park v Camberley (2.30)
High Wycombe v Weston-s-Mare (2.30)
Newbury v Cheltenham
Plymouth v North Walsham (2.30)

SOUTH WEST: First division: Barnstaple v Matson; Bridgwater v Brixham; Camborne v Torquay; Launceston v Salisbury; St Ives v Maidenhead; Stroud v Gloucester Old Boys

LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: First division: Esher v Staines; Guildford and Godalming v Sutton and Epsom; Old Colfeians v Wimbledon; Old Mid-Whitgiftians v Harlow; Ruislip v Sudbury; Southend v Norwich; Thurrock v Basingstoke.

MIDLANDS: First division: Barkers Butts v Leamington; Belgrave v Hinckley; Broad Street v Derby; Burton v Camp Hill; Syston v Stafford; Westleigh v Scunthorpe; Whitchurch v Mansfield; Wolverhampton v Leighton Buzzard.

NORTH: First division: Bridlington v Sedgley Park; Broughton Park v Bradford and Bingley; Macclesfield v Hull Ionians; New Brighton v Tynedale; Stockton v Wigton; Widnes v West Park Bramhope.

Welsh League
First division
Bridgend v Newport (2.30)
Dunvant v Llanelli (2.30)
Ebbw Vale v Swansea (2.30)
Neath v Cardiff (2.30)
Newbridge v Caerphilly (2.30)
Treorchy v Pontypridd (2.30)

Second division
Abertillery v Maesteg (2.30)
Bonymaen v Ystradgynlais (2.30)
Cross Keys v Aberavon (2.30)
Llandovery v Blackwood (2.30)
Pontypool v South Wales Police (2.30)
Cardiff Institute v Abercynon (2.30)

THIRD DIVISION: Builth Wells v Tondu; Penarth v Kenfig Hill; Mountain Ash v Tenby United; Pyle v Merthyr; Rumney v Llanharan; Tredegar v Narberth.

HOCKEY

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Cannock v Reading (at Morris Ground, 1.0); Canterbury v Teddington (at Polo Farm, 12.0); East Grinstead v Barford Tigers (at Saint Hill, 12.30); Havant v Guildford (at Havant College, 2.30); Hounslow v Surbiton (at Dukes Meadow, Chiswick, 1.30); Southgate v Old Loughtonians (at Broomfield School, 2.0). First division: Edgbaston v Hull (at Birmingham Univ, 1.30); Firebrands v Doncaster (at Longwood, Bristol, 1.0); Gloucester City v Crosticks (at Plock Court, 1.30); Harleston Magpies v City of Portsmouth (at Shotford Heath, 1.15); Oxford Hawks v Lewes (at Banbury Road, 1.30); Oxford University v Isca (at St Edward's School, 12.0); Sheffield v Indian Gymkhana (at Abbeydale Park, 2.0); St Albans v Bluehearts (at Clarence Park, 2.0); Stourport v Bournville (at Kidderminster School, 2.0); Trojans v Bromley (at Stoneham Lane, 1.30); Warrington v Brooklands (at Penketh Co School, 1.0)

DTZ MIDLAND LEAGUE: Premier division: Bloxwich v Hampton-in-Arden; Coventry and North Warwickshire v Blossomfield; Khalsa v Nottingham; Loughborough Students v Harborne; North Nottinghamshire v Olton and West Warwickshire.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Chester v Neston; Formby v Springfields; Norton v Swalwell; Sheffield Bankers v Ben Rhydding; Southport v Harrogate; Timperley v Ramgarhia.

ADNAMS EAST LEAGUE: Premier division-A: Bishop's Stortford v Colchester; Cambridge City v Peterborough Town; Cambridge University v Ipswich; Dereham v Chelmsford; Sudbury v Redbridge and Ilford. Premier division B: Clacton v Old Southendian; Huntingdon v Ipswich and East Suffolk; Norwich City v Bury St Edmunds; Romford v Bedford Town; Westcliff v Luton Town.

NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE: Premier League: Ashford v Beckenham; Bournemouth v Hampstead and Westminster; Chichester v Anchorians; High Wycombe v Old Kingstonians; Ramgarhia v Fareham; Tunbridge Wells v Richmond; Wimbledon v Gore Court; Winchester v Maidenhead; Woking v Spencer; Wokingham v Old Whitgiftians. Hampshire/Surrey: Andover v Epsom; Basingstoke v Barnes; Oxted v Dulwich; Old Cranleighans v Old Walcountians; Southampton v Purley; Goan v Cheam; Blandford v Camberley; Petersfield v Portsmouth; London University v Oxshott; Old Mid Whitgiftians v Walton and Weybridge. Kent/Sussex: Bexleyheath v Brighton; Bognor v Horsham; Eastbourne v Herne Bay; Lloyd Bank v Bexley Invicta; Mid-Sussex v Middleton; Old Holcombeians v Old Bordenians; Old Williamsonians v Marden Russets; Sevenoaks v Belvedere; Tulse Hill v Ashford; Worthing v Blackheath. Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Amersham v City Of Oxford; Farnham Common v Hayes; Headington v Bracknell; Lions v Marlow; Newbury v Harrow; OMT v Mill Hill; PHC Chiswick v Milton Keynes; Richings Park v West Hampstead; Staines v Eastcote; Sunbury v Gerrards Cross.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Clifton v Doncaster (12.30); Hightown v Trojans (12.0); Leicester v Sutton (12.30); Slough v Ipswich (12.30). First division: Bluebirds v Chelmsford (2.0); Bradford v Bedans (1.50); Canterbury v Bracknell (2.0); Olton v Wimbledon (2.0). Second division: Ealing v St Albans (1.15); Loughborough Students v Old Loughtonians (2.30); Sherwood v Exmouth (12.00); Woking v West Witney (12.30)

EAST LEAGUE: Bury v Cambridge City; Harleston v Ashford; Ipswich v Welwyn Garden City; Sevenoaks v Bexleyheath.

MIDLAND LEAGUE: Aldridge v West Bromwich; Bedford v Hampton; Crimson Ramblers v Pickwick; Kettering v Leicester.

NORTH LEAGUE: Carlisle v Liverpool; Chester v York; Sheffield v Poynton; Welton v Blackburn.

SOUTH LEAGUE: City of Portsmouth v Southampton; Hampstead v Worthing; Reading v Dulwich; Tulse Hill v Horsham; Winchester v Winchmore Hill.

WEST LEAGUE: Colwall v Yate; Leominster v Redland; St Austell v Cheltenham; Wimborne v Exeter.

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Birmingham v Newcastle (7.30); Hemel and Watford v Sheffield (7.30). 7UP Trophy: Leicester v Derby (7.30); Thames Valley v Crystal Palace (8.0); Worthing v Leopards (8.0).

BOWLS: Denny Cup: Tilbury v Colchester; Barking v Towerlands; David Lloyd v Falcon; Ipswich v Essex County; ICIS v Hearts; White Knights v Slade; Brackley v Banbury; Desborough v West Berkshire; Bristol v Cotswold; Perdiswell v Northavon; Malvern Hills v Clevedon; Clarrie Dunbar v Bromsgrove.

BOXING: World Boxing Organisation featherweight championship: Prince Naseem Hamed (Sheffield, holder) v Remigio Molina (Arg); World Boxing Organisation featherweight super-middleweight championship: Steve Collins (Ire, holder) v Nigel Benn (Ilford); World Boxing Organisation featherweight light-middleweight championship: Ensley Bingham (Manchester) v Ronald Wright (US, holder) (all at Nynex Centre, Manchester).

CYCLING: British Airways/Manchester Airport World Challenge (at Manchester velodrome).

ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Newcastle v Ayr (6.40); Bracknell v Sheffield (6.0); Basingstoke v Cardiff (6.30).

LACROSSE: Shepherds Friendly Society League: Premier division: Boardman and Eccles v Stockport; Heaton Mersey v Timperley; Poynton v Hulmeians; Old Waconians v Mellor; Cheadle v Cheadle Hulme.

NETBALL: International match: England v Jamaica (at Wembley Arena, 3.0).

ROWING: Fuller's Fours Head (Mortlake to Putney, 1.45)

VOLLEYBALL: National League: Women: First division: Wessex v Warwick (3.30).

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

World Cup
European qualifying group four
Scotland v Sweden
(at Ibrox)

Group eight
Ireland v Iceland
(at Lansdowne Road, Dublin)

Nationwide League
First division
Crystal Palace v QPR (1.0)

LEAGUE OF WALES: Ebbw Vale v Welshpool; Inter Cable-Tel v Caernarfon

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National division: Croydon v Arsenal (at Croydon Sports Arena, 2.0); Everton v Liverpool (at Marine FC, 12.30); Southampton v Ilkeston (at AFC Totton, 2.0); Tranmere v Millwall (at Heswall FC, 2.0).

UK LIVING WOMEN'S FA CUP: Second round replay: Sawbridgeworth v London.

FA WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Northern division: Blyth Spartans v Notts County; Bronte v Aston Villa; Garswood St Helens v Huddersfield; Sheffield Wednesday v Bradford; Stourport v Wolverhampton. Southern division: Ipswich v Leyton Orient; Langford v Wimbledon; Oxford Res v Whitehawk; Three Bridges v Berkhamstead; Town and County v Brighton and Hove

RUGBY UNION

Under-21 match
Munster v New Zealand News
(at Musgrave Park, 2.30)

HOCKEY

HA CUP: Third round: Blackheath v Hampton-in-Arden (at Lloyds Bank SC, 2.0). Bluehearts v Worcester Norton (at Hitchin Boys School, 1.0); Bromley v Ipswich (at Priory Leisure Centre, 12.30); Cambridge City v Isca (at St Catherine's SC, 12.0); Cannock v Crostyr (at Morris Ground, 1.30). Chelmsford v Lions (at South Woodham Ferrers Centre, 1.0). Chichester v Guildford (at Chichester HS, 1.30); Edgbaston v Doncaster (at King Edwards VII GS, 1.30); Fareham v York (at HMS Collingwood, 1.30). Firebrands v City of Portsmouth (at Longwood, 1.30); Gloucester City v Anchorians (at RAF Innsworth, 1.0). Gore Court v Nottingham (at Westlands School, Sittingbourne, 1.0); Hampstead and Westminster v Jersey (at Paddington Recreation Ground, 12.30); Harleston Magpies v Peterborough Town (at Shotford Heath, 2.0); High Wycombe v Harrogate (at Atwood School, Maidenhead, 2.0). Hull v Bloxwich (at Princess Elizabeth Ground, 12.30), Indian Gymkhana v Trojans (at Thornbury Avenue, 1.30). Northampton Saints v Weston-super-Mare (at King's Heath, 1.15); Norton v Canterbury (at Station Road, 12.0); Old Walcountians v Lewes (at Carshalton Road, Banstead, 1.0); Oxford Hawks v Hounslow (at Banbury Road, 1.0); Sheffield Bankers v Bournville (at Abbeydale, 2.15); Sheffield v East Grinstead (at Abbeydale, 12.30); Southgate v Barford Tigers (at Broomfield School, 1.30); Stourport v Southport (at Kidderminster School, 1.30); Surbiton v Wimbledon (at Sugden Road, 1.30); Teddington v Havant (at Teddington School, 1.30); Timperley v St Albans (at Timperley HC, 1.30); Warrington v Brooklands (at Penketh HS, 1.30). Yeovil and Sherborne v Beeston (at Huish Park, 12.30).

WOMEN'S MIDLAND LEAGUE: Aldridge v Hampton; Kettering v Crimson Ramblers; Leicester v West Bromwich; North Staffordshire v Pickwick.

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Newcastle v Chester (7.0).

ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Ayr v Nottingham (6.0); Sheffield v Basingstoke (6.30). Manchester v Newcastle (6.0); Cardiff v Bracknell (6.0).

VOLLEYBALL: National League: Women: First division: Orpington v London (2.30); Essex v Liverpool (1.30); Birmingham v Guildford (12.45).

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RUGBY UNION

Townsend central to Scotland's strategy

By David Hands, rugby correspondent

A STRANGE uncertainty surrounds the Australians as they approach the first of three internationals with the home countries at Murrayfield today. There is a lack of composure, created by the need for a new management and a new team to settle to their roles, a swathe of injuries the like of which few touring teams have faced and the apparent absence of dominating characters on the field.

Scotland may find by the end of the Royal Bank international that the character remains, but, judged against the likes of Slack, Ella, Lynagh, Poidevin and Farr-Jones of the recent past, no guiding presence stands out. Even David Campese, who played with all those great players of Australian rugby, is confined to the replacements' bench.

There is the further uncertainty of the professional era, which only this week welcomed the legal use of the tactical replacement, though neither coach — like Jack Rowell, of England — seeks to exploit it. There has been criticism of Australia's tour party from home and abroad, while the Scots are struggling to recover from heavy defeats during the summer in New Zealand: there is a new captain in Gregor Townsend and the only Hastings in sight, Scott, is a replacement.

COVERAGE

TELEVISION: BBC1: live from 2.40pm in Grandstand. Radio: 5 Live: in Sport on Five (starts 11.55am)

These are teams seeking to find themselves: Scotland regrouped admirably after the 1995 World Cup to press England hard for last season's five nations' championship, but then found the All Blacks in rampant mood and are without Rob Wainwright, their influential leader.

Gary Armstrong makes a welcome return, renewing the half-back link with Craig Chalmers that served Scotland so well between 1989 and 1994. Chalmers is said to have reshaped his game and Scots will hope that he and Townsend can offer alternative focal points of attack — just as Townsend does at Northampton when Paul Grayson is playing at stand-off half, though there is no question that Townsend prefers to play in the No 10 *shirt.*

"We want to create more try-scoring chances and take them, rather than just competing," Townsend said after yesterday's training session. This harks back not only to New Zealand but to last season at home, where Scottish ability to open the field was not always rewarded on the scoreboard. They will take the same approach today, aided by the selection of two open-side forwards, the one newcomer, Murray Wallace, being one of them. He is on the blind-side.

Against them stand an Australian XV, none of whom has played at Murrayfield. For many, this tour is a first experience outside their own hemisphere. In winning five games, they have lost five players through injury, yet nobody should forget that, during the summer tri-nations' tournament, they beat South Africa and held New Zealand to a seven-point margin, showing notable character after that amazing 43-6 drubbing in Wellington by the All Blacks.

They have already played one international on this tour, against Italy, and have worked together in a way the Scots have not. "Ultimately we want to get personal satisfaction out of our performance, based on the work we have done," Greg Smith, the coach, who has been subjected to considerable criticism, said. "If we win, people may keep quiet for a while."

Two New South Walians hold the key to Australian success today — and against Ireland and Wales: David Knox and Matthew Burke, the playmaker and the points-scorer. Knox enjoyed an Indian summer in Australia's provincial rugby, while Burke was the player of Australia's season, kicking goals with the regularity of a metronome during the Super 12 tournament and inspiring his colleagues with his running from full back.

Yet they can only perform when they have the ball. John Eales will ensure some, but the big query hangs over the Australian tight five, where Andrew Blades wins his first cap at tight-head prop. Should they hold their own, then the polish of their back division may overcome even the Murrayfield roar.

IAN STEWART

Knox, second left, shows his delight at scoring a try during the Australians' defeat of Combined Districts last Saturday

Knox relishes opportunity to step out of Lynagh's shadow

Australia's nearly man hopes that, finally, his time has come. **Mark Souster** reports

David Knox could not resist a wry smile when reading the *Sydney Morning Herald* this summer. The newspaper had asked leading rugby personalities, among them Bob Dwyer, the former Australia coach, to select their preferred team to play the touring Wales team.

Dwyer nominated Knox, which came as something of a surprise because in the eight years he was in office, Dwyer had virtually ignored the talented but enigmatic Australian Capital Territories (ACT) stand-off half. "I thought: '*Thanks Bob, the first year you're out of the job you put me in,*'" Knox said.

That, to a large extent, has been the story of Knox's career to date: the nearly man of Australian rugby who made his international debut in 1985 but who has, in the intervening years, missed out on the glittering prizes while playing second fiddle to Michael Lynagh.

Lynagh and Knox were contemporaries in the successful Australia schools side of 1981-82 that toured Great Britain undefeated, but, while Lynagh went on to become a household name, Knox, now 33, remained a peripheral figure. To date, the man whom Dwyer still maintains has the "best hands" of any stand-off, as well as a prodigious boot, has accumulated a mere six caps. In the meantime, Lynagh rewrote the record books before retiring last year after 72 games for his country.

The wheel of fortune has now turned full circle. After a twist of fate — Scott Bowen's broken leg — and a new lease of life with ACT in the Super 12 series, Knox finds himself playing against Scotland at *Murrayfield today as the acknowledged first choice*, a Pied Piper, of sorts, to comparative youngsters of the calibre of Burke, Roff, Horan and Howard.

"It has been pretty frustrating," Knox said. "I guess it's just been bad timing. But now things are looking up. I've changed and I've come out of my shell. I'm now able to take games by the scruff of the neck. The guys at Randwick [his club] expect me to take control of the game. I'm the oldest guy there apart from Campo [David Campese], so the responsibility is on me."

In his early days, he had a reputation for marching to a different beat, a "regular guy" but one who lacked hunger. All wrong, he insists. It was simply that he soon learnt to *mask disappointment and* disillusionment while underneath still aching at the perceived injustice of successive rebuffs, the worst when failing to make the 1995 World Cup squad, having been a member of the Australia team that beat New Zealand 20-16 in Sydney a year before. "I thought that was definitely it," he said. "No way I'd get a look in at the age of 32."

Rejection for the 1992 tour of Wales and Ireland hurt almost as much and prompted him to take a year out, travel the world and settle in Italy and play for Padua.

"I suppose now I'm making up for lost time as far as rugby is concerned. It'll be a dream playing in front of 67,000 people at Murrayfield. I am pretty intense about it and am having trouble sleeping but I'll be fine," Knox said. "I look on my job as getting the back division going. If they've had *a good game, I know I have. I* have learnt a lot from Michael [Lynagh] and Bob [Dwyer], that creating space for those outside is really important."

An arts graduate and a teacher by profession, Knox was also a talented cricketer, a member of the Australia Under-19 team that boasted players of the calibre of Tim May and the Waugh brothers. However, having opted for rugby, he has no regrets because, he said, the sport has "given me so much".

His hopes of confronting Gregor Townsend, an old adversary from the latter's stint at Warringah, have been dashed by the Scotland captain's switch to outside centre. "He is a fine player," Knox said. "They beat us in Sydney and I couldn't get a sniff at him. I hope it won't be the same on Saturday."

Even if it is, it may not be the last time the pair meet. Dwyer, his old mentor now in charge at Leicester, is rumoured to want Knox at Welford Road, an invitation he may find hard to resist. You see, Dywer never forgets a friend.

TODAY'S TEAMS AT MURRAYFIELD

SCOTLAND		AUSTRALIA
R J S Shepherd (Melrose)	15	M C Burke (NSW)
A G Stanger (Hawick)	14	T J Horan (Queensland)
G P J Townsend (Northampton) *	13	D J Herbert (Queensland)
B R S Eriksson (London Scottish)	12	P W Howard (ACT)
K M Logan (Stirling County)	11	J W Roff (ACT)
C M Chalmers (Melrose)	10	D J Knox (NSW)
G Armstrong (Newcastle)	9	S J Payne (NSW)
D I W Hilton (Bath)	1	R L L Harry (NSW)
K D McKenzie (Stirling County)	2	M Foley (Queensland)
B Stewart (Edinburgh Acads)	3	A T Blades (NSW)
M I Wallace (Glasgow HK)	6	O Finegan (ACT)
D F Cronin (Wasps)	4	W W Waugh (NSW)
G W Weir (Newcastle)	5	J A Eales (Queensland) *
I R Smith (Gloucester)	7	D J Wilson (Queensland)
E W Peters (Bath)	8	D T Manu (NSW)

Referee: P Thomas (France)

* captain

REPLACEMENTS: 16 D A Stark (Melrose), 17 S Hastings (Watsonians), 18 B W Redpath (Melrose), 19 S Murray (Bedford), 20 A G M Watt (Currie), 21 D G Ellis (Currie).

REPLACEMENTS: 16 D I Campese (NSW), 17 R C Tombs (NSW), 18 G M Gregan (ACT), 19 B J Robinson (ACT), 20 A Heath (NSW), 21 M Caputo (ACT).

Conflicting demands of club and country hit home

By David Hands

JUST when opportunity offers the chance to pick up the threads of domestic competition, the club versus country argument rears its head once more. That the country in this case is Ireland, whose match against Western Samoa has caused four games to be postponed in England, makes no difference. Clubs cannot operate as businesses in this way and the sooner they, the European governing bodies and television negotiators sit down together to structure a coherent programme, the better.

That England has yet to achieve co-operation between *those disparate elements* does not help the overall process. Different opinions over the value of regional rugby remain, as illustrated by the support offered by Sale and Orrell to the North's representative programme this month — as against that withheld by West Hartlepool and Newcastle; similarly, in the second division of the Courage Clubs Championship, Coventry take a common-sense approach relevant to this season's particular difficulties.

"I don't think divisional teams should play on substandard grounds with substandard teams," Gerry Sugrue, their chairman, said. "I understand that the English Professional Rugby Union Clubs want senior sides to play touring teams, but I fail to see how that will help English rugby if those clubs have a preponderance of overseas players. We have to learn lessons from cricket and rugby league and, certainly, football.

"I want to raise the standard of English rugby generally and Coventry in particular. Touring sides should play English-qualified representative teams, not international all-stars XVs."

Though weakened, the first-division programme today *still offers an outstanding* game at Franklin's Gardens between Northampton and Bath. Northampton are annoyed that Ireland would not release players when their international with Western Samoa is not until Tuesday, but they have chosen to go ahead with the game to avoid risking a backlog of fixtures. Nick Beal has been passed fit to play full back and last season's England half backs, Matt Dawson and Paul Grayson, may feel they have a point to prove — notably against Mike Catt — after their omission from the XV to play Italy.

Gloucester, meanwhile, will hope to pick up the form of a month ago, when they overturned Wasps. That victory, their first in the league this season, carried them ahead of West Hartlepool whom they visit today with Ed Pearce at No 8.

☐ Federico Méndez, who has signed to play for Bath, plays in the first of two internationals between Argentina and South Africa in Buenos Aires today. His inclusion is an indication of how far Argentina have relaxed their stance against professionalism.

Tuigamala on bench against depleted Munster

By Karl Johnston

IRISH interest in the Heineken Cup and the European Conference has ended, but this weekend marks the start of a period of intense activity on provincial and international fronts, at full and age-group levels. As the national and A squads continue their four-day training session at Limerick University today, a much-depleted Munster side takes on the visiting Western Samoans at Musgrave Park in Cork, where the province's under-21 team will play the New Zealand News under-21s tomorrow.

After a flurry of training *sessions involving domestic*, Western Samoan, South African, New Zealand and Australian squads on Monday, Tuesday will give Pat Whelan, the national team manager, and Murray Kidd, the coach, their first opportunity of the season to test international waters. That afternoon, Ireland A will meet South Africa A at Donnybrook in Dublin, then, in the evening, the full national team will face Western Samoa at Lansdowne Road in the first full rugby international match to be staged under lights in Ireland.

With 11 of their first-choice players ruled out by national demands, Munster today field a side that bears little resemblance to the team defeated by Toulouse a week ago. Only four of that team will be in action against the Samoans — Pat Murray and Sean McCahill, who were original choices, and Paul McCarthy and Len Dineen, who came on as replacements against Toulouse.

However, most of today's squad were involved in both Munster's Heineken Cup and successful Guinness inter-provincial championship campaigns. There are only two new caps — Frank Sheehan, the hooker, and Alan *Quinlan, the flanker* — while the international players are McCahill, McCarthy and the scrum half, David O'Mahony, who made his solitary appearance against Italy in 1995.

Va'aiga Tuigamala, who has been called up by coach Bryan Williams, is a replacement this afternoon, but will play on the left wing against Ireland on Tuesday, when he will be making his international debut for his native country. His only previous international appearance against Ireland was in the first international at Dunedin in 1992, when the All Blacks won 24-21.

☐ *Terry Holmes*, the Cardiff coach, has told his team to put next week's European Cup quarter-final against Bath out of their minds and concentrate on this afternoon's Welsh League first division match at Neath. International calls and the two European club competitions have seen a six-week break in domestic activity and Cardiff, third in the table and five points adrift of leaders Swansea, are anxious to make up for lost time.

SAILING: ISAF VOTES IN FAVOUR OF REPLACING STAR CLASS WITH NEW 'SUPER DINGHY' IN SYDNEY

49er wins approval to join the gold rush in 2000

By Edward Gorman
sailing correspondent

THE council of the International Sailing Federation (ISAF) yesterday approved the *introduction of the 49er*, a high-performance dinghy, for the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000 and, at the same time, threw out the Star class to make way for it.

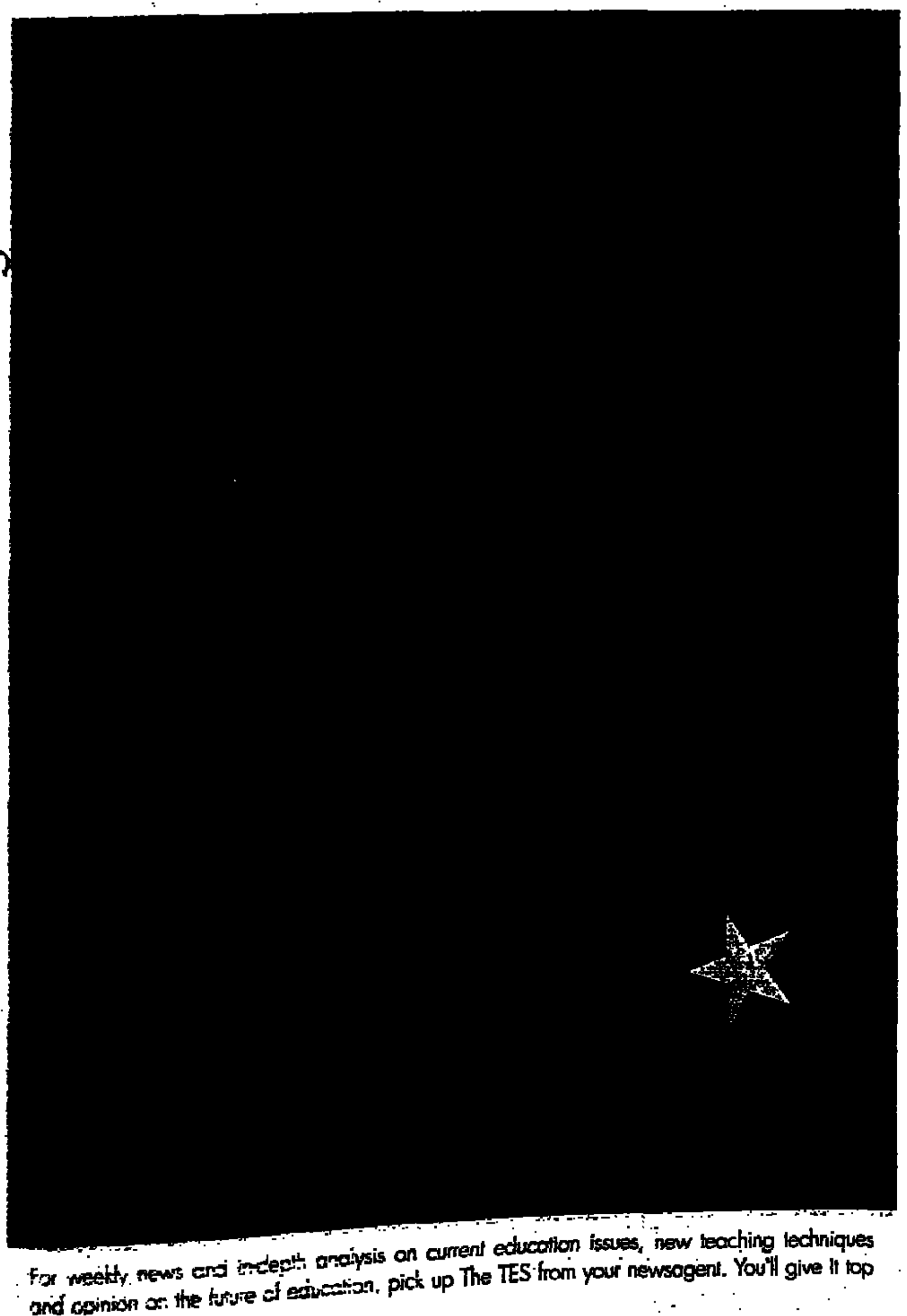
The 49er was approved at the ISAF's annual conference in Brighton, alongside the Mistral men and women's windsurfers, the Europe, Soling, Laser, Finn, 470 classes for men and women and the Tornado catamaran.

Paul Henderson, the ISAF president, whose personal enthusiasm for the inclusion of one of the new breed of dinghies did much to ensure that a change was made, said he was disappointed for Star sailors, but was sure the class would continue to thrive. "I have no doubt that we now have a blend of classes which encourages young sailors, both men and women, of all weights and aptitudes, to aspire to participate in the Olympic regatta," he said.

Meanwhile, Lawrie Smith was in Brighton to announce the first five crew who will sail with him on the men's boat in the Swedish Team EF syndicate in the Whitbread round-the-world race next year. In addition to Magnus Olsson, the senior Swede on the team, the new crew are Gordon Maguire, who sailed with Smith on *Rothmans* in the 1989-90 Whitbread and was watch captain on *Winston* last time round; Neal McDonald, who recently crewed for Smith on the 18ft skiff that was sponsored by *The Times*; Adrian Stead, who was part of Andy Beadsworth's Olympic Soling crew; and Steve Hayles, who navigated on *Reebok* in the last Whitbread.

Smith, who will sail with up to 11 crew, said the inclusion of more stopovers and, therefore, more short legs in the race will mean that boat speed and crew work will be more important next year. He said he is likely to run a two-watch system again and wants six good helmsman. Beadsworth is among those still hoping to get a place, though Smith is under pressure to choose his remaining crew members from a range of nationalities.

The two new EF boats are expected to be completed in May. The team will then select the two fastest from its four-strong stable for the race.



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RACING: RUSSIAN SNOWS CARRIES SAEED BIN SUROOR TO TRAINERS' TITLE

Godolphin achieves supremacy

By Julian Muscat

IT MADE for a perfect vignette of the entire season. When Russian Snows secured *the trainers' championship for* Saeed bin Suroor by winning the RJB Mining Fillies' Conditions Stakes at Doncaster yesterday, she was chased home by Questonia, whose trainer, Henry Cecil, pressed bin Suroor all the way to the wire.

In the end the sheer depth of *the Godolphin string* prevailed over Cecil's rallying troops. *But the laurels, if not* the accolade itself, go to both men, whose competitive instincts enlivened what is traditionally a drab conclusion to the Flat season. Cecil's feat in keeping tabs on bin Suroor was no less remarkable than the rise from obscurity of the former Dubai policeman.

Bin Suroor, 30, has complained of feeling like an outcast in Newmarket, where Godolphin, the inspiration of Sheikh Mohammed, is based for six months of the year. Yet the dignity with which he has carried himself through a difficult year has even rubbed off on Cecil.

A year ago, Sheikh Mohammed *stripped Warren Place of* the 40 horses he entrusted to Cecil. *It was inconceivable* that bin Suroor and Cecil would be exchanging racecourse pleasantries, as they have throughout the last few weeks. And Bin Suroor was quick to reciprocate in the wake of Russian Snows's victory. "Henry Cecil is a good trainer and a good man," he said. "He is my friend."

Bin Suroor is officially listed as Godolphin's trainer but his influence within the set-up has been regularly belittled. He does not wield the authority of his British contemporaries, but then, he has never claimed to. *Perhaps the most satisfying* aspect of Godolphin's triumph *is that it accentuated the* importance of teamwork within all successful racing stables.

Bin Suroor emphasised the point in the moment of triumph. "This is for the Godolphin team," he declared. With Godolphin *poised* to increase its stable strength next season, *bin Suroor will be every bit as* competitive in defence of his championship.

The turning point of this *Herculean* struggle came at Doncaster two weeks ago. Godolphin supplemented Medaaly, previously disappointing at Ascot, to the valuable Racing Post Trophy. *The* colt responded by *running the race of his life as the* Cecil-trained Besiege, Medaaly's *master on an earlier encounter*, faded quickly from *contention*.

The achievement caps a remarkable two-year period for Godolphin, the headquarters of which lies on the fringes of Dubai city. Last season the outfit annexed three domestic classics, most notably Lammtarra's extraordinary victory in the Derby. Its prize-money haul was bettered only by John Dunlop.

This year Mark Of Esteem added the 2,000 Guineas to Godolphin's classic pennant. The stable's major British triumphs included Halling's Eclipse and International *Stakes double, Classic Cliche's* Ascot Gold Cup victory, Medaaly's Racing Post tally and Mark Of Esteem's emphatic performance in the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes.

Indeed, Mark Of Esteem provided two of bin Suroor's fondest memories. "The Queen Elizabeth II Stakes was very good because the best *horses in Europe were there,*" the trainer said. "The Eclipse *was good but I couldn't forget* the 2,000 Guineas. Mark Of Esteem was very brave."

It was, of course, Cecil who trained Mark Of Esteem before his removal by Sheikh Mohammed. Charnwood Forest and Classic Cliche, other former inmates of Warren Place, also made significant prize-money contributions. But if Cecil was effectively operating with one hand behind his back, he admitted the jolt of losing Sheikh Mohammed's *horses shook him from* a complacency inherent in *landing nine previous championships*. Cecil felt he had a *point to prove; he proved it* emphatically.

As the champagne was unleashed at Doncaster, one poignant moment *illustrated* the difference between this and other championships. Bin Suroor surveyed the scenes of celebration and said: "I will have a glass of orange juice. I do not drink because of my religion."

The contest had ebbed flowed, but bin Suroor's clarity of purpose never wavered.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: MISS MARIGOLD
(1.35 Wincanton)
Next best: Northern Saddler
(1.15 Chepstow)

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

The sign in the winner's enclosure at Doncaster confirms Saeed bin Suroor's victory in the trainers' championship

Astute campaigner can celebrate Election Day

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

CHEPSTOW

BBC1

1.15: Newlands-General may have to give best to **Northern Saddler** in what may boil *down to a match. Newlands-*General's forcing tactics *should string out* the opposition but his jumping is not always reliable. Northern Saddler, a winner first time last season, is reported fit and well for his reappearance.

1.45: David Nicholson's good record in this race prompted *support for his Castle Sweep* earlier in the week. The five-*year-old has prospects but he* requires a career-best performance *against some talented* opponents. Dr Leunt, another to attract interest, will be fit enough despite his lengthy absence. Nevertheless, he appears weighted to the hilt on his second in a below-par Triumph Hurdle 20 months ago. I prefer **Jet Rules**, a course and distance winner with considerable scope for improvement. Hampered when only tenth at the Cheltenham Festival, he has been given every chance by the handicapper.

2.15: See More Business, twice a winner between the *flags, could go right to the top* over fences. He impressed in an abbreviated hurdling campaign last term but stamina appears his forte. A sedate gallop over this trip may find him out. Buckhouse Boy, a leading staying novice hurdler, has almost as much potential but a chance is taken with **Wee Windy**. Josh Gifford's horse has long appealed as a chasing type.

DONCASTER

CHANNEL 4

2.55: ***Election Day*** *should* be hard to beat on his favoured surface. *Although not sighted* since Royal Ascot, his trainer, *Michael* Stoute, *would not* saddle the colt at this late stage unless he was ready. Eva Luna's 8lb penalty looks prohibitive, while *Medaille* Militaire is unproven at this trip. Key To My Heart and Sheer Danzig make more appeal, but must improve to topple the selection.

3.30: Kutta is a worthy favourite after his narrow defeat by Salmon Ladder in group company. Well handicapped, he remains on the upgrade but offers no value *against* 23 opponents. Dato Star, a clear second 12 *months ago, should* again go well but two with chances *near the foot of the handicap* are Shadow Leader and **Romios**. Shadow Leader was convincing at Ascot recently but Romios, who ran another fine race at Newmarket last time, is in his element on an easy surface. He looks a better prospect than his stablemate, Present Arms, a progressive three-year-old whose recent form was gained on fast ground. Clifton Fox should stay this trip but *has been hammered* for reducing the Cambridgeshire to a procession.

4.05: Orchestra Stall, who probably failed to last home in the Cesarewitch, came good *when returned* to two miles last week. He will be popular but *faces a progressive* filly in **Sweetness Herself**. The *Mick Ryan-trained* three-year-old recently accounted for Paradise Navy, Debutante Days and Lepikha at Nottingham. Even on worse terms, she should confirm that form.

WINCANTON

CHANNEL 4

3.10: **Coome Hill** makes plenty of appeal in a race *governed by doubts* about his more established rivals. The seven-year-old *boasts* a recent outing, is a safe jumper and will act on the ground. By contrast, Garrison Savannah and Well Briefed have become disappointing. Glemot is unlikely to stay. Samlee's jumping is risky and Tug Of Peace too inconsistent to entertain. With Straight Talk in the handicapper's grip, Run Up The Flag looks the danger.

3.45: Dreams End and Eskimo Nel *are fit from the Flat*, the latter shaping well when sixth at *Leicester last* month. However, either will do well to beat **Mistinguett**, who impressed when victorious at Newbury recently.

JULIAN MUSCAT

DONCASTER

THUNDERER

12.20 Silverani
12.50 *Percy Isle*
1.20 Dances With Hooves
1.50 Yorkie George
2.25 Carranita
2.55 Key To My Heart
3.30 Kutta
4.05 *Sweetness Herself*

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.30 **KUTTA.**

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 1.50 Yorkie George. 2.55 **ELECTION DAY** (nap). 3.30 Kutta.

GOING: SOFT — SIS
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING — DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

12.20 B O C SUREFLOW MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES

(Div I: 2-Y-O: £2,911: 1m) (16 runners)

101	(7)		BRAND NEW DANCE (J Sutton) D Arbuthnot 9-0	T Quinn	–
102	(14)		ETERNAL HOST (L & R Roadlines) R Hollinshead 9-0	F Lynch (3)	–
103	(15)	00	FRUITIE O'FLARETY 9 (W Gredley) C Brittain 9-0	M Roberts	72
104	(11)	0580	HIGHLAND PASS 18 (R Curtis) P Burgoyne 9-0	D R McCabe	68
105	(2)		MOGUL (Silver and Blue Club) N Graham 9-0	A McGlone	–
106	(4)	0	MR MUSIC 12 (Mrs H Raw) K McAuliffe 9-0	J F Egan	–
107	(13)	0242	POLAR FLIGHT 17 (Middleham Partners) M Johnston 9-0	J Weaver	[illegible]
108	(16)		QUARTERSTAFF (W Gredley) C Wall 9-0	G Duffield	–
109	(6)	0	SALFORD LAD 10 (A Thompson) G Wragg 9-0	M Hills	–
110	(5)	2	SILVERANI 10 (P Silver) L Cumani 9-0	O Urbina	86
111	(3)	06	SUCH PRESENCE 16 (Miss E Hill) K Bridgwater 9-0	C Rutter	–
112	(9)	2550	SUPPLY AND DEMAND 22 (Action) G L Moore 9-0	S Whitworth	94
113	(10)	0	*BISQUET-DE-BOUCHE 18 (M Brooks) R Dickin 8-9*	*Dane O'Neill*	–
114	(12)	3	LEADING NOTE 11 (Sheikh Mohammed) L Cumani 8-9	J Fortune	83
115	(8)	3	PERFECT POPPY 52 (J Greetham) J Fanshawe 8-9	D Harrison	93
116	(1)	04	SPICETRESS 19 (M C A Ltd) J Spearing 8-9	S Drowne	78

BETTING: 5-2 Polar Flight, 110-30 Silverani, 13-2 Supply And Demand, 8-1 Perfect Poppy, 10-1 others.

1995: SHAAMIT 9-0 M Hills (13-8 fav) W Haggas 23 ran

12.50 B O C SUREFLOW MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES

(Div II: 2-Y-O: £2,885: 1m) (15 runners)

201	(9)	0	ARISAIG 28 (Mrs J MacPherson) P Calver 9-0	M Birch	80
202	(11)	34	HERE'S TO HOWIE 51 (Breeze Uppers) R Hannon 9-0	Dane O'Neill	94
203	(10)		MOON RIVER (B Andersson) J Dunlop 9-0	T Sprake	–
204	(2)	03	PERCY ISLE 18 (Sheikh Mohammed) M Stoute 9-0	K Fallon	[illegible]
205	(13)		*PINCHINCHA (T Wells) D Morris 9-0*	*N Day*	–
206	(6)	0	STRAFFAN GOLD 15 (P Savill) G Wragg 9-0	K Darley	–
207	(8)	0	TYROLEAN DREAM 17 (P Heath) M Tompkins 9-0	M Henry (3)	85
208	(15)		ZINZARI (B Nielsen) D Loder 9-0	D R McCabe	–
209	(5)		BELLE BIJOU (J Morrison) M Johnston 8-9	J Weaver	–
210	(12)	0	*GINGER ROGERS 18 (W Ponsonby) D Arbuthnot 8-9*	*C Rutter*	67
211	(14)	00	JUCINDA 7 (Mrs S Watson) J Pearce 8-9	J Quinn	71
212	(3)	6	LADYBIRD 12 (Cheveley Park Stud) J Gosden 8-9	L Dettori	80
213	(4)	0	MOVE THE CLOUDS 15 (W Gredley) J Fanshawe 8-9	D Harrison	80
214	(7)	0	RUSSIAN OLIVE 7 (Lord Carnarvon) L Cumani 8-9	O Urbina	91
215	(1)	06	STRICTLY HARD 11 (J Goodman) G Bravery 8-9	Declan O'Shea	76

BETTING: 2-1 Percy Isle, 3-1 Zinzari, 4-1 Moon River, 7-1 Belle Bijou, 12-1 Here's To Howie, 16-1 others

1995: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

1.20 TOTE LADIES HANDICAP (£4,175: 1m) (22 runners)

301	(6)	250060	SANDMOOR CHAMBRAY 7 (B,C,F,G) T Easterby 5-11-7	Miss A Deniel (5)	97
302	(7)	100000	QUEENS CONSUL 11 (D,G) (Ms H Dawson) B Rothwell 6-11-6	*Mrs D McHale (5)*	[illegible]
303	(5)	464000	TAKHLID 4 (D,F,S) (Miss N Thesiger) D Chapman 5-11-5	Miss R Clark	65
304	(21)	100660	MAPLE BAY 21 (D,G,S) A Bailey 7-11-5	Miss Bridget Gatehouse (5)	97
305	(10)	2/30-32	DANCES WITH HOOVES 211 (V Squeglia) D ffrench Davis 4-11-5	Miss J Allison	91
306	(13)	232000	ROYAL CEILIDH 11 (D,F,G) (Carlton App) D Smith 3-11-4	Miss M Carson (5)	97
307	(14)	263003	*KNOTTY HILL 38 (Knotty Hill Golf) R Craggs 4-11-1*	*Miss P Robson*	94
308	(22)	051600	MYBOTYE 11 (F,G) (A Moroney) G Oldroyd 3-11-1	Mrs C Williams (5)	93
309	(18)	105240	FARRINGDON HILL 40 (F) (C Ranson) R Champion 5-11-0	Mrs K Hills (5)	95
310	(11)	040000	KING ATHELSTAN 14 (F) (I Guise) B McMahon 8-11-0	Miss E J Jones (5)	97
311	(8)	3-32	CATUMBELLA 17 (BF) (Mrs S Taylor) J Gosden 3-11-0	Mrs L Pearce	94
312	(12)	403054	PROUD MONK 16 (V,S) (K Higson) G L Moore 3-10-13	Mrs J Moore (5)	92
313	(19)	216606	DARLING CLOVER 11 (F,G) R Bastiman 4-10-12	Miss R Bastiman (5)	98
314	(20)	20-1100	NORTHERN FAN 30 (D,G) (Speedlith Group) N Tinkler 4-10-11	Miss P Jones	90
315	(15)	061161	*POLLY PECULIAR 16 (D,S) B Smart 5-10-7*	*Miss V Marshall (5)*	97
316	(16)	13-0000	BEN GUNN 7 (F,S) (M White) P Walwyn 4-10-4	Marchioness Blandford (5)	89
317	(17)	606540	ABSOLUTE UTOPIA 32 (B Beale) N Berry 3-10-4	Miss E Folkes (5)	91
318	(2)	4033-50	MR FROSTY 12 (G) (D Wright) W Jarvis 4-10-4	Miss E Johnson Houghton	89
319	(1)	605020	STACKATTACK 15 (Mrs J Ramsden) Mrs J Ramsden 3-10-3	Miss E Ramsden (5)	97
320	(4)	000/035-	*EXPRESS GIFT 260J (D,F,S) (M Horner) Mrs M Reveley 7-10-2*	*Mrs S Bosley*	93
321	(3)	350003	DISPOL GEM 11 (W Brotson) G Oldroyd 3-10-1	Mrs D Kettlewell	97
322	(9)	223511	MELS BABY 33 (D,F,G) (J Roberts) J Eyre 3-10-1	Miss Diana Jones	94

BETTING: 5-1 Catumbella, 7-1 Polly Peculiar, Mels Baby, 12-1 Stackattack, Dances With Hooves, 16-1 others

1995: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

1.50 CIU NSPCC APPEAL NURSERY HANDICAP

(2-Y-O: £4,066: 7f) (13 runners)

401	(9)	106540	FOR YOUR EYES ONLY 58 (F,G) (R Griffin) T Easterby 9-7	M Birch	91
402	(11)	011	YORKIE GEORGE 14 (G,S) (M Dawson) L Cumani 9-2	L Dettori	98
403	(8)	021	*RIHAN 17 (F) (H Al Maktoum) S bin Suroor 8-13*	R Hills	94
404	(1)	31312	JEFFREY ANOTHERRED 50 (BF,F,G) (Highgrove Ltd) K McAuliffe 8-11	R Hughes	98
405	(12)	55560	OUT OF SIGHT 23 (D Allen) B McMahon 8-8	S Sanders	98
406	(5)	12	PASSIFLORA 131 (BF,F) (Mrs R Greive) J Dunlop 8-8	T Quinn	91
407	(6)	042501	I CAN'T REMEMBER 15 (C,D,F,G,S) (P Graham) P Evans 8-6	J F Egan	95
408	(4)	066	HARMONY HALL 17 (R Tooth) J Fanshawe 8-5	D Harrison	88
409	(13)	225002	EFFERVESCENCE 14 (Gold Buster Synd) R Hannon 8-3	Dane O'Neill	[illegible]
410	(10)	421000	TOP OF THE WIND 15 (D,F) (J McGrath) J J O'Neill 7-13	J Quinn	98
411	(7)	6452	DON SEBASTIAN 19 (BF) (Khoomaher) W Haggas 7-12	R Mullen (7)	97
412	(3)	62500	MANHATTAN DIAMOND 10 (Mrs B Higgans) A Bailey 7-10	Iona Wands (7)	84
413	(2)	664560	THE FOUR ISLES 19 (H O'Donnell) D Haydn Jones 7-10	F Norton	64

BETTING: 4-1 Rihan, 9-2 Yorkie George, 5-1 Jeffrey Anotherred, Passiflora, 8-1 I Can't Remember, 10-1 others.

1995: CAPILANO PRINCESS 8-1 A Mackay (10-1) D Haydn Jones 12 ran

2.25 WENTWORTH STAKES

(Listed race: £11,798: 6f) (16 runners)

501	(9)	210011	DIFFIDENT 14 (C,D,F,G,S) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 4-9-6	K Darley	97
502	(13)	015312	CROFT POOL 13 (C,D,F,G) (Countrywide Classics) J Glover 5-9-0	G Carter	89
503	(1)	020112	RUSSIAN REVIVAL 14 (D,BF,F,G) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 3-9-0	L Dettori	[illegible]
504	(14)	050641	*ASTRAC 9 (D,F,G,S) (T Beecroft) Miss G Kelleway 5-8-11*	K Fallon	91
505	(8)	106005	AVERTI 16 (D,F,G) (D Deer) W Muir 5-8-11	Dane O'Neill	83
506	(10)	000110	TADEO 14 (F,G,S) (J Good) M Johnston 3-8-11	M Roberts	87
507	(6)	050000	TAKADOU 4 (F,G,S) (Exors of F Tyldesley) Miss L Siddall 5-8-11	D Harrison	77
508	(12)	230615	THE PUZZLER 9 (D,F,G,S) (Lady Wellesley) B Hills 5-8-11	M Hills	93
509	(7)	410100	*CARRANITA 21 (CD,F,G,S) (Lamb Lane Assocs) B Palling 6-8-6*	T Sprake	91
510	(2)	050000	DOUBLE QUICK 21 (V,F,G,S) (E Beckett) M Johnston 4-8-6	J Weaver	84
511	(11)	10-2000	KEEPERS DAWN 142 (D,S) (B Lanigan) R Johnson Houghton 3-8-6	S Sanders	81
512	(3)	614020	MONTSERRAT 18 (V,D,BF,G,S) (Mrs A Yearley) L Cottrell 4-8-6	M Fenton	85
513	(5)	51000-6	PARIS BABE 182 (D,F,G) (Mrs S Parry) D Morris 4-8-6	N Day	60
514	(15)	561606	*ROYALE FIGURINE 21 (C,D,F,G,S) (C Pearman) M F-Godley 5-8-6*	T Quinn	98
515	(16)	600651	SHANGHAI GIRL 14 (V,C,D,F,G) (W Said) D Loder 3-8-6	D R McCabe	91
516	(4)	013604	*WARNING STAR 27 (D,F) (S Crown) B Hills 4-8-6*	R Hills	83

BETTING: 100-30 Croft Pool, 9-2 Diffident, Russian Revival, 7-1 Carranita, 10-1 Shanghai Girl, 12-1 others

1995: CARRANITA 5-8-6 T Sprake (20-1) B Palling 12 ran

2.55 CO-OPERATIVE BANK SERLBY STAKES

C4

(Listed race: £10,928: 1m 4f) (10 runners)

601	(10)	0-1210	ELECTION DAY 141 (V,G,S) (Lord Weinstock) M Stoute 4-9-4	Pat Eddery	83
602	(6)	*215512*	*KEY TO MY HEART 36 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs M Pickering) Miss S Hall 6-9-4*	J Weaver	93
603	(9)	11143	EVA LUNA 14 (C,D,F,G) (K Abdulla) H Cecil 4-9-2	K Fallon	91
604	(4)	116250	KALABO 14 (D,F,S) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 4-8-13	L Dettori	93
605	(3)	5-00201	MEDAILLE MILITAIRE 10 (F,G) (J Hartnell) J Dunlop 4-8-13	K Darley	[illegible]
606	(2)	066000	PUNISHMENT 20 (D,G,S) (A Richards) C Brittain 5-8-13	M Roberts	98
607	(7)	313252	SHEER DANZIG 41 (F,G) (R Arculli) R Armstrong 4-8-13	M Hills	92
608	(1)	546100	POPPY CAREW 28 (D,F,G) (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 4-8-8	G Duffield	96
609	(5)	106144	FREEQUENT 48 (D,F,S) (Fittocks Stud) L Cumani 3-8-7	O Urbina	90
610	(8)	366005	WEET-A-MINUTE 12 (F,G) (E Weetman) R Hollinshead 3-8-7	F Lynch	86

BETTING: 4-1 Key To My Heart, 9-2 Election Day, 5-1 Eva Luna, Medaille Militaire, 6-1 Kalabo, 8-1 Punishment, *Poppy Carew, 12-1 others*

1995: BLUSHING FLAME 4-9-0 M Hills (8-1) M Stoute 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

ELECTION DAY beat Mads Music 4l in 8-runner listed race at Newbury (1m 5f 61yd, soft) on penultimate start.
KEY TO MY HEART 4l 2nd of 4 to Busy Flight in listed race at Newmarket (1m 4f, good to firm). EVA LUNA 5¾l 3rd of 12 to Salmon Ladder in group III Perpetual St Simon Stakes at Newbury (1m 4f, soft) with KALABO (3lb better off) 17¾l 7th. MEDAILLE MILITAIRE beat Miss Universal 3½l in 7-runner *conditions race at Yarmouth (1m 2f, good). SHEER* DANZIG 1¾l 2nd of 20 to Better Offer in handicap at Ascot (1m 4f, good).
POPPY CAREW best effort this term beat Ellie Ardensky 1¾l in 7-runner conditions race at Kempton (1m 4f, good). FREEQUENT about 7l 4th of 15 to Toto Le Moko in conditions race at San Siro (1m 4f, heavy).
Selection: MEDAILLE MILITAIRE

3.30 TOTE CREDIT NOVEMBER HANDICAP

C4

(£26,670: 1m 4f) (24 runners)

1	(15)	2-50424	OVERBURY 23 (F,G,S) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 5-10-0	L Dettori	89
2	(20)	*513010*	*BETTER OFFER 21 (D,F,G) (Mrs W Saner) G Harwood 4-9-6*	Pat Eddery	89
3	(10)	061-012	KUTTA 14 (F,G,S) (H Al Maktoum) R Armstrong 4-9-3	R Hills	[illegible]
4	(14)	633113	CLIFTON FOX 8 (C,F,G,S) (P and S Partners) J Glover 4-8-10	N Day	98
5	(24)	054-340	PENNY A DAY 14 (CD,F,G,S) (J Good) Mrs M Reveley 6-8-7	K Darley	89
6	(13)	321103	CELESTIAL CHOIR 44 (C,D,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs C Sykes) J Eyre 6-8-5	J Fortune	93
7	(16)	106343	*DANCE SO SUITE 29 (D,BF,F,G,S) (J Gatkin) P Cole 4-8-4*	T Quinn	91
8	(9)	302100	GAME PLOY 16 (F,G) (K Kynaston) D Haydn Jones 4-8-3	S Sanders	93
9	(4)	54202-3	DATO STAR 16 (BF) (K Riley) J Jefferson 5-8-3	K Fallon	90
10	(19)	236203	ROMIOS 23 (G,S) (C Shiacolas) P Cole 4-7-12	C Rutter	97
11	(2)	138343	NABHAAN 16 (D,F) (H Al Maktoum) D Morley 3-7-12	G Carter	96
12	(3)	*313130*	*FAR AHEAD 31 (D,F,G,S) (Sunpak Potatoes) J Eyre 4-7-11*	T Williams	91
13	(11)	30-0001	SHADOW LEADER 29 (D,G,S) (J Blackshaw) C Egerton 5-7-10	L Charnock	89
14	(17)	546005	TEN PAST SIX 14 (F) (J Kenderley) M Wane 4-7-10	F Norton	90
15	(22)	500-002	GONE FOR A BURTON 16 (BF,F,S) (H Carrington) P Makin 6-7-10	N Carlisle	96
16	(7)	3-22111	PRESENT ARMS 26 (D,F) (F Salman) P Cole 3-7-10 (4ex)	J Quinn	87
17	(8)	*011213*	*SUGAR MILL 14 (C,D,F,G,S) (C Buckley) Mrs M Reveley 6-7-10*	D Wright (3)	89
18	(23)	4-12202	WILD RITA 14 (D,F,G) (Perspicacious Punters) W Muir 4-7-10	P Doe (7)	89
19	(21)	120401	EDAN HEIGHTS 16 (D,S) (T Mountain) S Dow 4-7-10 (4ex)	A Daly (5)	89
20	(1)	462620	MIDYAN BLUE 15 (G) (K Palmer) J Eustace 6-7-10	N Kennedy	86
21	(12)	45224	HEART 36 (BF) (P Newton) M Stoute 3-7-10	R French (7)	89
22	(5)	322321	VOILA PREMIERE 30 (D,F,G) (B Gaule) M Tompkins 4-7-10	R Mullen (7)	84
23	(6)	101201	HAYA YA KEFAAH 43 (CD,F,G) (A Craddock) N Babbage 4-7-10	DOUBTFUL	74
24	(18)	062001	ASKERN 4 (F) (H D Donnell) *D Haydn Jones 5-7-10 (4ex)*	*N Varley (3)*	74

Long handicap: Gone For A Burton 7-9, Present Arms 7-7, Sugar Mill 7-5, Wild Rita 7-4, Edan Heights 7-4, Midyan Blue 7-2, Heart 7-2, Voila Premiere 6-10, Haya Ya Kefaah 6-8, Askern 6-6

BETTING: 100-30 Kutta, 4-1 Clifton Fox, 13-2 Dato Star, 7-1 Present Arms, 14-1 Shadow Leader, Better Offer, 16-1 Sugar Mill, 20-1 others

1995: SNOW PRINCESS 3-8-2 R Hills (5-1 fav) Lord Huntingdon 18 ran

FORM FOCUS

OVERBURY about 4½l 4th of 9 to Bright Water in *conditions race at Newmarket (1m 2f, good to firm)*. BETTER OFFER beat Sheer Danzig 1¾l in 20-runner handicap at Ascot (1m 4f, good) on penultimate start, with *DANCE SO SUITE (5lb better off)* 1½l 4th and ROMIOS (8lb better off) 4¼l 8th. KUTTA ¾l 2nd of 12 to Salmon Ladder in group III Perpetual St Simon Stakes at Newbury (1m 4f, soft). CLIFTON FOX two necks 3rd of 8 to Proper Blue in listed race at Newmarket (1m 2f, good). CELESTIAL CHOIR neck and 3l 3rd of 11 to Mellottie in handicap at Pontefract (1m 2f, good to *firm*).
SHADOW LEADER beat Polydamas by 2l in 15-runner handicap at Ascot (1m 4f, good to soft). *DATO STAR* 10l and head 3rd of 17 to Tolers Dancer in maiden at Nottingham (1m 6f, good). PRESENT ARMS beat Trick 3l in 7-runner handicap at Leicester (1m 4f, good to firm).
VOILA PREMIERE beat Dreams End by ¾l in 22-runner handicap at York (1m 4f, good).
Selection: KUTTA (nap)

4.05 COALITE DRAGON HANDICAP

C4

(£7,830: 2m 110yd) (17 runners)

1	(2)	214101	ORCHESTRA STALL 8 (D,G) (D Sieff) J Dunlop 4-10-3	T Quinn	90
2	(5)	600452	SEA VICTOR 16 (C,D,BF,F,G) (D Abell) J L Harris 4-8-11	L Dettori	[illegible]
3	(16)	322310	GENEROSA 59 (F) (F Salman) H Candy 3-8-11	C Rutter	90
4	(17)	52462-0	EXECUTIVE DESIGN 187 (BF,S) (L Foster) Mrs M Reveley 4-8-9	K Darley	89
5	(7)	5516-00	TORCH VERT 217 (F,G) (P Green) N Walker 4-8-8	J Stack	90
6	(6)	100020	LALINDI 14 (D,F,G,S) (C Ranson) R Champion 5-8-5	A McGlone	93
7	(14)	305040	NOUFARI 45 (G) (E Weetman) R Hollinshead 5-8-3	F Lynch (3)	96
8	(10)	001111	SWEETNESS HERSELF 9 (G,S) (Mrs M Lavell) M Ryan 3-8-0	M Baird (3)	93
9	(15)	034033	PARADISE NAVY 9 (B,C,D,F,G) (Elite Racing) C Egerton 7-8-0	R Mullen (7)	95
10	(4)	220641	BOWCLIFFE COURT 16 (D,G,S) (A Spence) R Akehurst 4-7-13	J Quinn	95
11	(13)	*282104*	*UNCLE DOUG 23 (D,F,S) (D Scott) Mrs M Reveley 5-7-12*	L Charnock	91
12	(12)	51-4600	DEBUTANTE DAYS 9 (B,F,S) (Mrs S Brasher) C Egerton 4-7-11	M Henry (3)	96
13	(11)	420624	SHIRLEY SUE 33 (D,F,G) (Greenland Park) M Johnston 3-7-10	F Norton	90
14	(9)	121304	IZZA 16 (D,F,S) (D Ealey) W Storey 5-7-10	N Kennedy	88
15	(3)	032410	LEPIKHA 9 (G) (R Sangster) B Hills 3-7-10	N Carlisle	89
16	(1)	560433	*KARISMA* 15 (V Roper) Denys Smith 3-7-10	R French (7)	86
17	(8)	0/50/4-	OUTSET 225J (M Wilner) M Hammond 6-7-10	D Wright (3)	84

Long handicap: *Shirley Sue 7-6, Izza 7-4, Lepikha 7-4, Karisma 6-13, Outset 6-10.*

BETTING: 100-30 Orchestra Stall, 5-1 Bowcliffe Court, 6-1 Sweetness Herself, 7-1 Paradise Navy, 8-1 Sea Victor, *14-1 Uncle Doug,* 16-1 Generosa, 20-1 others

1995: MERIT 3-7-9 J Quinn (2-1 fav) P Cole 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

ORCHESTRA STALL beat Leonato 1¾l in 11-runner listed handicap at Newmarket (2m, good). SEA VICTOR head 2nd of 15 to Backwoods in handicap at Nottingham (2m, good) with PARADISE NAVY (3lb better off) 1¾l 3rd and IZZA (3lb *worse off*) ¾l 4th.
EXECUTIVE DESIGN neck 2nd of 5 to Trazl in handicap at Redcar (1m 6f, good) on penultimate start.
SWEETNESS HERSELF completed four-timer, beat Siege Perilous 1¾l in 17-runner handicap at Nottingham (1m 6f, soft) with PARADISE NAVY (4lb better off) short-head 3rd, DEBUTANTE DAYS (7lb better off) 2½l 7th and LEPIKHA ½l 8th. BOWCLIFFE COURT beat Upper Gallery 2½l in 14-runner handicap at Newbury (2m, soft).
LEPIKHA beat Ondiorsaven 1¾l in 20-runner handicap at Pontefract (2m 2f, good) on penultimate start.
KARISMA 4½l 3rd of 11 to Great Tern in handicap at Doncaster (1m 6f 132yd, good).
Selection: ORCHESTRA STALL

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
S bin Suroor	6	16	37.5	M Hills	32	170	18.8
N Babbage	3	8	37.5	Pat Eddery	37	209	17.7
G Wragg	15	52	28.8	S Sanders	6	34	17.6
R Armstrong	12	44	27.3	L Dettori	35	200	17.5
H Cecil	27	105	25.7	R Hills	14	87	16.1
M F-Godley	6	24	25.0	C Rutter	3	20	15.0
J Gosden	36	160	22.5	R Hughes	7	48	14.6

☐ Singspiel, the Michael Stoute-trained colt, and Paul Cole's Strategic Choice have been added to the European challenge for the Japan Cup a fortnight tomorrow. They join Helissio, Pentire and Zagreb in the 1½-mile race in Tokyo.

CHEPSTOW

THUNDERER

1.15 Northern Saddler
1.45 JET RULES (nap)
2.15 See More Business
2.50 Minella Derby
3.25 Jet Boys
3.55 Phar From Funny

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 .... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — *pulled up.* U — *unseated rider.* B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT — *SIS*

1.15 OSMINGTON MILLS HOLIDAYS AND PERMIT TRAINERS ASSOCIATION HANDICAP CHASE

BBC1

(£6,905: 2m 110yd) (6 runners)

1	*312563-*	*NORTHERN SADDLER 234 (D,F,G,S) (R Evans) R Hodges 9-11-10*	*R Dunwoody*	93
2	2133-42	NEWLANDS-GENERAL 14 (D,G,S) (C Murphy) P Nicholls 10-11-3	A P McCoy	[illegible]
3	0411-44	NAIYSARI 8 (B,S) (P Rich) P Rich 8-10-10	W Marston	80
4	*PPF233-*	*BENJAMIN LANCASTER 180 (CD,G,S) (M Griffin) M Griffin 12-10-0*	*M Griffiths (7)*	88
5	23-3133	NORTHERN OPTIMIST 7 (D,F,G) (Mackworth Snooker Club) B Llewellyn 8-10-0	R Johnson	84
6	PP3265-	OLLIVER DUCKETT 186 (Mrs J Sidebottom) Mrs J Sidebottom 7-10-0	M Sharratt	84

Long handicap: Benjamin Lancaster 9-13, Northern Optimist 9-3, Olliver Duckett 8-8

BETTING: 5-4 Newlands-General, 7-2 Northern Saddler, 9-2 Naiysari, 6-1 Benjamin Lancaster, 7-1 others.

1995: KIBREET 8-12-0 A Maguire (4-1) P Hobbs 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

NORTHERN SADDLER 15l 3rd of 5 to Gales Cavalier *in handicap chase at Exeter* (2m 2f, good to soft). NEWLANDS GENERAL ¾l 2nd of 9 to Zeredar in handicap chase at Worcester (2m, good). NAIYSARI 23¼l 4th of 11 to Around The Gale in novice chase at Bangor (2m 1f 110yd, good to soft). BENJAMIN LANCASTER 3½l 2nd of 6 to Aal El Aal in handicap chase at Newton Abbot (2m 110yd, soft). NORTHERN OPTIMIST 2l 3rd of 7 to Eastern Magic in handicap chase at Stratford (2m 1f 110yd, good) on penultimate start with NEWLANDS GENERAL (9lb better off) 15l 4th. OLLIVER DUCKETT 5l 2nd of 6 to Lake Of Loughrea in novice chase at Ludlow (2m, good to firm), Apr 96.
Selection: NORTHERN SADDLER

1.45 TOTE SILVER TROPHY HANDICAP HURDLE

BBC1

(£16,217: 2m 4f 110yd) (10 runners)

1	64/5P4-	MUSE 16F (CD,G,S) (White Horse Racing Ltd) D Elsworth 9-11-10	A Procter	98
2	41122D/	DR LEUNT 604 (G) (P Emery) P Hobbs 5-10-11	A P McCoy	–
3	111133-	CASTLE SWEEP 226 (G,S) (Lord Vestey) D Nicholson 5-10-10	R Johnson	91
4	4/23101-	SILVER SHRED 225 (D,F,G,S) (D Beresford) M Pipe 5-10-6	R Dunwoody	96
5	652110-	JET RULES 241 (CD,G,S) (Jet Stationery Company) Mrs J Pitman 6-10-2	W Marston	[illegible]
6	420-14	HAND WOVEN 35 (F) (M Archer & Miss J Broadhurst) N Twiston-Davies 4-10-0	C Llewellyn	98
7	3P012-1	RUNAWAY PETE 7 (CD,F,G) (J Smeadon) M Pipe 6-10-0 (3ex)	S Wynne	97
8	453433/	MEDITATOR 644 (CD,G,S) (Miss J Doyle) A Jones 12-10-0	B Fenton	–
9	43501-1	TEEN JAY 14 (D,F,G,S) (Genesis Associates) B Llewellyn 6-10-0 (3ex)	V Slattery	97
10	*3212/12*	*MYTTON'S CHOICE 15 (C,BF,F,G) (G Mytton) D Nicholson 5-10-0*	*Mr R Thornton (7)*	97

Long handicap: Hand Woven 9-11, Runaway Pete 9-11, Meditator 9-10, Teen Jay 9-9, Mytton's Choice 9-6.

BETTING: 7-4 Castle Sweep, 5-1 Jet Rules, 6-1 Silver Shred, 7-1 Dr Leunt, 8-1 Mytton's Choice, Runaway Pete, 10-1 Teen Jay, 12-1 others.

1995: JIBBER THE KIBBER 6-10-0 R Farrant (40-1) Mrs J Pitman 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

DR LEUNT 2½l 2nd (later placed last) of 26 to Kissair in grade I Daily Express Triumph Hurdle at *Cheltenham* (2m 1f, soft), *Mar 95*. CASTLE SWEEP 8l and head 3rd of 27 to Indefence in grade I Citroen Supreme Novices' Hurdle at Cheltenham *(2m 110yd, good to soft) with SILVER SHRED* 11l 7th. SILVER SHRED beat Ashwell Boy ¾l in 10-runner grade II Martell Mersey *Novices'* Hurdle at Aintree (2m 4f, good).
JET RULES completed double, beat Sparkling Yasmin 3½l in 15-runner grade II Persian War Premier Novices' Hurdle over course and distance (soft), Feb 96. HAND WOVEN 3½l 4th of 11 to Hamilton Silk in handicap hurdle here (2m 110yd, good). *RUNAWAY PETE beat Morstock 4l in 5-*runner handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m 3f, good to firm). MEDITATOR 10¼l 3rd of 12 to Miracle Man *in grade III Sandown Handicap Hurdle at Sandown* (2m 6f, heavy).
TEEN JAY beat Nahri 1½l in 13-runner handicap *hurdle at Worcester* (2m 4f, good). MYTTON'S CHOICE 1¼l 2nd of 3 to Country Star in handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, good).
Selection: SILVER SHRED

2.15 RISING STARS NOVICES CHASE

BBC1

(Grade II: £13,786: 2m 3f 110yd) (3 runners)

1	211453-	BUCKHOUSE BOY 225 (S) (The Bawtry Boys) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-0	T Jenks	–
2	111-	SEE MORE BUSINESS 344 (G,S) (P Barber and J Keighley) P Nicholls 6-11-0	A P McCoy	–
3	93/1124-	WEE WINDY 302 (F,G,S) (W Gale) J Gifford 7-11-0	R Dunwoody	–

BETTING: 4-7 See More Business, 9-4 Buckhouse Boy, 5-1 Wee Windy.

1995: HILL OF TULLOW 6-11-0 A Maguire (7-2) D Nicholson 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

BUCKHOUSE BOY 13l 3rd of 16 to Pleasure Shared in grade I Belle Epoque Sefton Novices' Hurdle at Aintree (3m 110yd, good). SEE MORE *BUSINESS* completed treble, *beat Father Sky 15l in* 5-runner grade II Crowngap Winter Novices' Hurdle at Sandown (2m 6f, good). WEE WINDY 1¼l 2nd of 12 to Better Times Ahead in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (3m 110yd, good) on penultimate start, *Dec 95*.
No selection.

2.50 REMEMBRANCE NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE

(£3,233: 2m 4f 110yd) (13 runners)

1	0B-	ARTURO 200 (Lady Lewinton) T Forster 5-10-12	S Wynne	–
2	241-	HURDANTE 190 (S) (TJA Consultants Ltd) G Balding 5-10-12	B Fenton	–
3	3/	KEDGE ANCHOR MAN 578 (A Green) A Foster 5-10-12	W Marston	–
4	05050F-	KING'S COURTIER 238 (T Syder & S Oliver) S Mellor 7-10-12	N Mann	[illegible]
5	64P8/3-	LOGICAL STEP 249 (A Smith) D Gandolfo 6-10-12	R Dunwoody	87
6	1-	MINELLA DERBY 208 (S) (B Kilby) P Nicholls 6-10-12	R Johnson	–
7	0-3	MR STRONG GALE 21 (Mrs J Jackson) P Nicholls 5-10-12	T Jenks	[illegible]
8	5-	STORMY PASSAGE 187 (P Luff) P Hobbs 6-10-12	Mr R Thornton (7)	–
9	0083-0	THE CHEESE BARON 28 (T Syder & S Oliver) S Mellor 5-10-12	Chris Webb (5)	50
10	202406-	THE REVEREND BERT 232 (The Bolde Club) G Balding 8-10-12	A P McCoy	[illegible]
11	00/4440-	DUNNICKS COUNTRY 192 (F Tucker) F Tucker 6-10-7	M Griffiths (7)	64
12	0/6U-	QUEEN OF THE SUIR 196 (R Scurgie) N Mitchell 7-10-7	V Slattery	–
13	120-	SUPREME KELLYCARRA 299 (F) (Mrs S Beaver) Miss H Knight 6-10-7	Mr A Wintle (7)	–

BETTING: 9-4 Minella Derby, 6-1 Logical Step, 8-1 Hurdante, The Reverend Bert, 10-1 Stormy Passage, Mr Strong Gale, 12-1 others.

1995: GENERAL CRACK 6-11-0 A P McCoy (6-1) P Nicholls [illegible]

3.25 STAYERS NOVICES HURDLE (£2,824: 3m) (8 runners)

1		COUNTRY BLUE 217P (Hunt & Co (Bournemouth) Ltd) P Nicholls 5-11-0	A P McCoy	–
2	P	EVENTSINTERNASHNAL 14 (BF) (Events International) M Sheppard 7-11-0	Mr J M Pritchard	–
3	32F32-2	FLYING GUNNER 9 (BF) (R Gibbs) D Nicholson 5-11-0	R Johnson	[illegible]
4	0204-	JET BOYS 250 (The Jet Stationery Company Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-0	W Marston	82
5		LA CHANCE 768F (A Walton) Mrs H Walton 6-11-0	Mr A Walton	–
6	041/0-	MENDIP PRINCE 302 (S) (Three Ply Racing) P Hobbs 6-11-0	R Dunwoody	–
7	0/00-00	JAMIE'S JOY 21 (Bravo Ltd) G Roe 5-10-9	T Jenks	50
8	5PPF0-4	REINE DE LA CHASSE 37 (Never Ever Bet Partnership) R O'Sullivan 4-10-9	A McCabe	–

BETTING: 6-4 Flying Gunner, 9-4 Jet Boys, 5-1 Country Blue, 7-1 Mendip Prince, 20-1 Eventsinternashnal, La Chance, 25-1 others.

1995: PLEASURE SHARED 7-11-0 P Carberry (11-1) P Hobbs 16 ran

3.55 NIMBLE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,785: 2m 110yd) (6 runners)

1	1011-	POTENTATE 215 (CD,F,S) (J Weaden) M Pipe 5-12-0	A P McCoy	90
2	121R80-	MONICASMAN 189 (D,F,G,S) (A Turnbull) A James 6-11-13	W Marston	90
3	13/3404-	MOMENT OF GLORY 297 (B,D,G,S) (Mrs D Mason) D Gandolfo 5-11-11	R Dunwoody	94
4	636501-	PHAR FROM FUNNY 203 (D,F) (Mrs E Haycock) G Balding 5-11-2	B Fenton	[illegible]
5	3/1-	NOTHINGTODOWITHME 368 (D,F) (Captain Miles Gosling) T Forster 6-10-3	S Wynne	85
6	8613-60	SAN DIEGO CHARGER 7 (D,F) (In The Pink Partnership) A Barrow 5-10-0	Mr R Thornton (7)	91

Long handicap: San Diego Charger 9-7.

BETTING: 9-4 Potentate, 3-1 Nothingtodowithme, 7-2 Monicasman, 4-1 Phar From Funny, 6-1 Moment Of Glory, *25-1 San Diego Charger*

1995: LIGHTENING LAD 7-11-5 G Upton (4-1) J King 16 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
D Nicholson	12	41	29.3	R Dunwoody	29	102	28.4
M Pipe	46	172	26.7	A P McCoy	14	55	25.5
P Hobbs	16	63	25.4	C Llewellyn	15	81	18.5
N Twiston-Davies	20	94	21.3	W Marston	8	47	17.0
P Nicholls	9	49	18.4	Only qualifiers			

Gosden sets sights on Rome prize

JOHN GOSDEN, the Newmarket trainer, sends Flemensfirth, three times successful in French group races, to Italy *tomorrow for the* group one, Premio Roma. *Frankie Dettori rides the* four-year-old, who will be suited by the forecast soft ground.

Clive Brittain's Needle Gun (Michael Roberts) and Michael Stoute's Sanoosea (John Reid) also tackle the ten-furlong contest, which has drawn a field of nine. Brittain's Acharne (Roberts) and Mark Johnston's Gothenberg (Jason Weaver) contest the group two Premio Ribot *(one mile) on the same card.*

The Luca Cumani-trained juveniles Barba Papa (Luca Panici) and Stillet (Mirco Demuro) tackle the one-mile Premio Palazetto at Milan, also tomorrow.

MONDAY: Carlisle (*first race, 1.00*), Folkestone (1.20), Wolverhampton (AW, 1.40).
TUESDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, 1.00), Ludlow (1.10), Sedgefield (12.50)
WEDNESDAY: Kelso (1.50), *Newbury* (1.20), Worcester (1.00).
THURSDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, 1.10), Taunton (1.00), Towcester (1.20)
FRIDAY: Ayr (12.55), Cheltenham (C4, 1.15), *Lingfield Park* (AW, 1.05).
SATURDAY: Ayr (12.35), Cheltenham *(C4, 1.10), Huntingdon (1.00), Windsor* (1.10), Wolverhampton (AW, 7.00).
SUNDAY: Cheltenham (C4, 1.05), Fontwell Park (12.50).
Flat meetings in bold

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14/1	Better Offer	25/1	Voila Premiere
14/1	Gone For A Burton	33/1	Overbury
14/1	Nabhaan	40/1	Far Ahead
16/1	Penny A Day	40/1	Heart
16/1	Wild Rita	40/1	Midyan Blue
20/1	Celestial Choir	100/1	Askern
20/1	Game Ploy	100/1	Ten Past Six
20/1	Romios	N/R	Haya Ya Kefaah

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THUNDERER

1.05 Charlie Parrot
1.35 Lake Of Loughrea
2.05 Tearful Prince
2.35 Gysart
3.10 Coome Hill
3.45 Eskimo Nel
4.15 Stellar Force

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

1.05 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE

(Qualifier: £2,600: 2m) (8 runners)

1	040-12	MAZZINI 18 (D,F) (N Cooper) R Rowe 5-11-10	Mr P O'Keeffe (7)	85
2	54-	ADMIRAL BRUNY 232 (Mrs G Morris-Adams) N Gaselee 5-11-0	J Kavanagh	—
3	4634-2	CHARLIE PARROT 11 (Mrs A Farrant) M Pipe 5-11-0	J Osborne	[illegible]
4	1216-	NEAT FEAT 360 (F) (Food Brokers Ltd) D Elsworth 5-11-0	P Holley	80
5		PARAMOUNT LEADER (J Arden) D Marks 4-11-0	J A McCarthy	—
6	1-	SILVER THYNE 190 (S) (R & E Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 4-11-0	R Farrant	—
7	D-	GALE SPRING 252 (Fieldspring Racing) R Hodges 4-10-9	T Dascombe (3)	—
8		WEST BAY BREEZE (Samways Fish Merchants) R Buckler 4-10-9	B Powell	—

BETTING: 7-4 Charlie Parrot, 3-1 Mazzini, 4-1 Neat Feat, Silver Thyne, 6-1 Admiral Bruny, 16-1 West Bay Breeze, 20-1 others.

1995: GUINDA 5-10-9 C Maude (7-1) N Twiston-Davies 8 ran

1.35 SILVER BUCK HANDICAP CHASE

(£4,328: 2m 5f) (13 runners)

1	FP083P-	DUHALLOW LODGE 226 (G,S) (R Barwell) C Barwell 9-11-12	J R Kavanagh	94
2	FF415-6	THE CAUMRUE 14 (G,S) (On The Run Partnership) G Balding 8-11-7	B Clifford	91
3	613-FU4	LAKE OF LOUGHREA 22 (F,G) (Mrs H Dalley) K Bailey 8-11-6	J Osborne	96
4	21-1F21	HERBERT BUCHANAN 10 (D,F,G) (Mrs A Cabcal) P Nicholls 6-11-3	Mr J Tizzard (7)	96
5	B3/0424-	JUMBEAU 186 (G,S) (Pell-Mell Partners) P Chamings 11-11-2	Mr C Bonner (3)	91
6	0/3313P-	TOO SHARP 189 (F,S) (Sir Anthony Scott) Miss H Knight 8-11-2	R Farrant	92
7	P-131F4	COMEDY ROAD 21 (D,F,G) (Winsbury Livestock) R Lee 12-11-2	P McLoughlin	91
8	P3P-653	BLACK CHURCH 18 (D,BF,F,S) (Dr B Alexander) R Rowe 10-10-12	D O'Sullivan	94
9	RP/FF1/	MISS MARIGOLD 700 (B,D,F,G,S) (S Norman) R Hodges 7-10-12	T Dascombe (3)	—
10	4/25213-	BEATSON 354 (F,S) (Mrs E Gardner) R Buckler 7-10-11	B Powell	90
11	423444	CHANNEL PASTIME 10 (G) (Mrs S Worthington) D Burchell 12-10-9	Guy Lewis (3)	92
12	22313-4	MONKS JAY 154 (F,G) (J Coven) G Thorner 7-10-4	I Lawrence	[illegible]
13	/P2163/	MAXXUM EXPRESS 596 (S) (L Garratt Racing) G Balding 8-10-1	R Guest	—

BETTING: 3-1 Herbert Buchanan, 7-1 Black Church, Lake Of Loughrea, 8-1 Duhallow Lodge, Comedy Road, Monks Jay, 10-1 Maxxum Express, 12-1 others.

1995: CONTI D'ESTRUVAL 5-10-6 B Clifford (5-1) G Balding 5 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
O Sherwood	11	32	34.4	O Burrows	3	9	33.3
M Pipe	34	124	27.4	J Osborne	14	63	22.2
Mrs J Pitman	16	63	25.4	C Llewellyn	7	47	14.9
Miss H Knight	7	30	23.3	J R Kavanagh	4	27	14.8
N Twiston-Davies	10	46	21.7	Guy Lewis	4	30	13.3
K Bailey	9	54	16.7	S McNeill	8	61	13.1

2.05 K J PIKE & SONS NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE

(£3,834: 3m 1f 110yd) (14 runners)

1	44/1/6-3	MINGUS 17 (F,S) (C Grover) R Buckler 9-11-10	B Powell	80
2	42/25P-1	TIGER CLAW 13 (F,G) (Unity Farm Holiday Ltd) A Hobbs 10-11-10	D Burrows (7)	—
3	6U3332-	GOD SPEED YOU 186 (G) (Wallop) C Morlock 7-11-9	J R Kavanagh	94
4	0P4U04-	THE BRUD 200 (Mrs J Bishop) O Sherwood 8-11-7	J Osborne	80
5	045520-	CERIDWEN 231 (Mrs S Greathead) T Greathead 8-11-1	P Holley	—
6	62U4T-U	TEARFUL PRINCE 13 (F) (C Mitchell) C Mitchell 12-11-1	S McNeill	98
7	042244	DUR NOOK 17 (P Rodford) P Rodford 6-10-13	S Burrough	[illegible]
8	PUP-3	STORMHILL PILGRIM 14 (F,G) (M Roberts) M Roberts 7-10-11	P McLoughlin	—
9	5356P-U	CARDINAL RULE 14 (P Burch) Miss V Williams 7-10-11	R Farrant	—
10	1314-P5	ITS-GRAND 14 (G) (Avon & West Racing Club Ltd) J Bradley 7-10-10	T J Murphy	98
11	5U852-6	CALL ME RIVER 28 (Larkin Around Pnrs) P Hedger 8-10-5	I Lawrence	93
12	/131-	MARKET GOSSIP 196P (G) (R Tory) R Alner 6-10-4	P Henley (3)	—
13	P0PD-	RAGGED KINGDOM 206 (Mrs R Snow, Mrs D Oddie) C Egerton 7-10-1	J A McCarthy	—
14	3/PPP	VARECK II 10 (G) (Martin Pipe Racing Club) M Pipe 9-10-1	B Moore (7)	—

BETTING: 7-2 Market Gossip, 9-2 God-Speed You, 5-1 The Brud, 6-1 Its Grand, 10-1 Tiger Claw, 12-1 Mingus, Stormhill Pilgrim, 14-1 others.

1995: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

2.35 WEST COUNTRY HANDICAP HURDLE

(£5,540: 2m 6f) (8 runners)

1	5333-21	LANSDOWNE 15 (CD,G,S) (R Dacmead) P Nicholls 8-12-0	D Burrows (7)	93
2	20213-3	SPARKLING YASMIN 35 (S) (V Palmer) P Hobbs 4-11-5	B Powell	92
3	2F3-	EULOGY 344 (N Cooper) R Rowe 6-11-3	D O'Sullivan	98
4	001111-	GYSART 185 (B,CD,F,G) (Mrs R Cobbold) M Pipe 7-11-3	J Osborne	[illegible]
5	3P10-03	REAGANESQUE 21 (S) (Mrs J Soleiman) P Murphy 4-10-12	R Farrant	89
6	113-121	BLASKET HERO 34 (B,CD,F,G) (Miss H Flower) Mrs S Williams 8-10-11	S McNeill	97
7	06242-0	JADIDH 3 (CD,F,G,S) (D Hazzard) A Barrow 8-10-11	D Salter (5)	96
8	/0111/P-	PRINCE TEETON 374 (CD,F,S) (R & S Richards) R Buckler 7-10-9	Mr J Tizzard (7)	—

BETTING: 5-2 Lansdowne, 7-2 Eulogy, 9-2 Sparkling Yasmin, 6-1 Gysart, Blasket Hero, 8-1 Jadidh, 12-1 others.

1995: EVER SMILE 8-11-11 J Lower (9-4) M Pipe 6 ran

3.10 BADGER BEER HANDICAP CHASE

C4

(£13,888: 3m 1f 110yd) (9 runners)

1	2324-12	GLEMOT 24 (F,G,S) (D Yardy) K Bailey 8-11-12	J Osborne	91
2	4421-22	STRAIGHT TALK 7 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs C Paterson) P Nicholls 9-11-10	Mr J Tizzard (7)	91
3	00/6390-	GARRISON SAVANNAH 273 (CD,G,S) (Autotelex Eng) Mrs J Pitman 13-11-7	R Farrant	[illegible]
4	1/12-1	COOME HILL 11 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs J Dennis) W Dennis 7-11-7	J Frost	90
5	445340-	WELL BRIEFED 241 (F,G,S) (P Jones) R Buckler 9-10-13	B Powell	90
6	313349-	RUN UP THE FLAG 242 (CD,F,G,S) (Pall-Mall Pnrs) J Gifford 9-10-13	L Aspell (3)	93
7	15255-5	TUG OF PEACE 10 (CD,F,G,S) (P Richardson) G Balding 9-10-4	B Clifford	95
8	F322-13	BIG BEN DUN 9 (B,BF,F,G,S) (Uplands Bloodstock) C Brooks 10-10-3	R Guest	88
9	1161-11	SAMLEE 17 (CD,F,G,S) (White Lion Pnrs) P Hobbs 7-10-1	J R Kavanagh	98

BETTING: 9-4 Straight Talk, 9-2 Glemot, 5-1 Coome Hill, 6-1 Samlee, Run Up The Flag, 8-1 Big Ben Dun, 10-1 Garrison Savannah, 14-1 others.

1995: TUG OF PEACE 8-10-11 B Clifford (16-1) G Balding 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

GLEMOT 3l 2nd of 5 to General Command in handicap chase at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm). STRAIGHT TALK 8l 2nd of 5 to Go Ballistic in handicap chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, good to firm). GARRISON SAVANNAH 41l 3rd of 5 to One Man in conditions chase at Haydock (3m, good) Dec 95, with WELL BRIEFED (4lb better off) 1¾l 4th. COOME HILL beat Andreiot 7l in 6-runner amateurs handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good to firm). RUN UP THE FLAG 17¾l 3rd of 22 to Stop The Waller in amateurs handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good to soft). Previously 12¾l 4th of 9 to Arthur's Minstrel in handicap chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, good to soft) with TUG OF PEACE (1lb better off) 1¼l 5th. BIG BEN DUN beat STRAIGHT TALK (5lb better off) 2l in handicap chase at Kempton (3m, good) on penultimate start. SAMLEE beat Kendal Cavalier 1¼l in novice hurdle at Exeter (2m 6f, good to firm).

Selection: STRAIGHT TALK

3.45 TANGLEFOOT ELITE HURDLE

C4

(Grade II: £12,880: 2m) (8 runners)

1	512013/	ARABIAN BOLD 556 (CD,F,G,S) (A Price) R Juckes 8-10-12	P Holley	—
2	20232-6	DREAMS END 7F (D,F,S) (T Price) P Bowen 8-10-12	R Farrant	88
3	F04113-	GROUND NUT 203 (CD,F,S) (Mrs R Haskins) R Buckler 6-10-12	B Powell	86
4		HARD TO FIGURE 16F (J Murselt) R Hodges 10-10-12	T Dascombe	—
5	421-221	SPACE TRUCKER 44 (D,G,S) (Mrs E Queally) Mrs J Harrington (Ire) 5-10-12	J Osborne	88
6	F0U10-F	HOPS AND POPS 21 (D,F,G,S) (The Happy Band) R Alner 9-10-11	P Henley	92
7	1126F0-	ESKIMO NEL 11F (D,G,S) (First Chance Racing) J Spearing 5-10-7	R Guest	[illegible]
8	42240-1	MISTINGUETT 15 (D,G,S) (J Duggan) N Twiston-Davies 4-10-7	C Llewellyn	97

BETTING: 7-4 Mistinguett, 7-2 Hops And Pops, 4-1 Eskimo Nel, 6-1 Dreams End, 7-1 Space Trucker, 8-1 Ground Nut, 12-1 others.

1995: ATOURS 7-11-2 P Holley (4-7 fav) D Elsworth 3 ran

FORM FOCUS

ARABIAN BOLD beat Kilcash 2l in a 4-runner limited handicap hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, firm) on penultimate start, Apr 95. DREAMS END, recent winner on the Flat, neck 2nd of 19 to Tragic Hero in the grade III Swinton Handicap Hurdle at Haydock (2m, good) on penultimate hurdle start May 96. GROUND NUT 10l 3rd of 11 to Suwez in a handicap hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, good to firm). HARD TO FIGURE latest flat effort, 7l 8th of 11 to The Puzzler in a handicap at Newbury (6f, soft). SPACE TRUCKER beat Mystical City ½l in a 15-runner handicap at Listowel (2m, good to yielding). HOPS AND POPS beat Mole Board head in a 4-runner conditions hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 4f, good), Apr 96. ESKIMO NEL, recent flat runner, 29l 8th of 11 to Amancio in a handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, soft). MISTINGUETT beat Hatta Breeze 7l in a 4-runner conditions hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, good).

Selection: MISTINGUETT

4.15 WEATHERBYS STARS OF TOMORROW OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE

(£1,459: 2m) (18 runners)

1	1-	DANCETILLYOUDROP 151 (G) (D Millard) P Nicholls 5-11-11	L Cummins (7)	—
2	2-1	LADY REBECCA 28 (F) (Kinnersley Optimists) Miss V Williams 4-11-6	R Farrant	—
3		BAVARDIER (Mrs G Balding) G Balding 5-11-4	B Clifford	—
4		BEWELDERED (P Tosh) R Frost 4-11-4	Mr A Holdsworth	—
5		BORODINO (Mrs P Cooper) R Rowe 4-11-4	D O'Sullivan	—
6		DARK CHALLENGER (Legs Only Pnrs) Mrs J Pitman 4-11-4	I Lawrence	—
7		ENDEAVOUR 535F (M Roberts) M Roberts 4-11-4	B Powell	—
8	0-	FAIR HAUL 578 (Mrs G Robarts) R Frost 5-11-4	J Frost	—
9		KYLAMI (W Lilley) A Hobbs 4-11-4	Mr G Shenkin (7)	—
10		MISSED THE MATCH (T Pocock) R Pocock 6-11-4	P McLoughlin	—
11		NED'S BOY (Clayton Potts Racing) S Earle 5-11-4	S McNeill	—
12	0-	NIGEL'S BOY 187 (D Lloyd) D Lloyd 4-11-4	D Burrows (7)	—
13		POT BLACK UK (A Lowe) P Hobbs 5-11-4	M Moran (7)	—
14		QUINI EAGLE (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 4-11-4	C Llewellyn	—
15	00-	SOPHIES DREAM 217 (W Jones) J Bradley 5-11-4	T J Murphy	—
16		STELLAR FORCE (Mrs R Feilden) O Sherwood 5-11-4	J Osborne	—
17	2-	WENTWORTH 233 (Miss J Newell) G Thorner 4-11-4	Clare Thorner (7)	—
18	0-	SPECIAL TOPIC 421 (Plough Racing) A Jones 6-10-13	R Guest	—

BETTING: 7-2 Dancetillyoudrop, 4-1 Quini Eagle, 5-1 Stellar Force, 7-1 Dark Challenger, 8-1 Lady Rebecca, 10-1 Wentworth, 14-1 others.

1995: KNIGHTSBRIDGE SCOT 4-11-2 S McNeill (12-1) N Babbage 10 ran

Blinkered first time

CHEPSTOW: 3.25 Eventsinternashnal. 3.55 Moment Of Glory. DONCASTER: 2.25 Double Quick. 2.55 Election Day. SANDOWN PARK: 12.55 Sterling Fellow. UTTOXETER: 12.40 Al Helal, My Handsome Prince, Saint Amigo. 1.40 Nukud, Robsera. WINCANTON: 3.10 Big Ben Dun.

UTTOXETER

THUNDERER

12.40 Swan Street. 1.10 Call It A Day. 1.40 Southern Nights. 2.10 Sailor Jim. 2.45 Jack Tanner. 3.20 Pharanear. 3.50 Yubralee.

GOING: GOOD SIS

12.40 PRD FASTENERS MAIDEN HURDLE

(Div I: £1,987: 2m) (14 runners)

1	6-5	AL HELAL 7 (V) J Jenkins 4-11-5	N T Egan (7)
2	00-	BARTON SCAMP 189 S Brookshaw 4-11-5	T Eley
3	0	BLUE LUGANA 8 N Bycroft 4-11-5	D Bentley
4	55-0	CAVIL 147 W Clay 4-11-5	A Thornton
5	0	DASHING DANCER 21 A Forbes 5-11-5	Gary Lyons
6		DICTATION 17F J J O'Neill 4-11-5	A Roche
7		FASTINI GOLD 40F M Usher 4-11-5	F Leahy (5)
8		GREEN GREEN DESERT 100F O Sherwood 5-11-5	D Bridgwater
9		KNAVE OF DIAMONDS 435F R Alner 4-11-5	W McFarland
10		MONTY 75F G Yardley 4-11-5	Michael Brennan (5)
11		MY HANDSOME PRINCE 70F (V) P Bevan 4-11-5	R Bellamy
12	65	SAINT AMIGO 23F (V) R Whitaker 4-11-5	Derek Byrne
13	0/P-	SCBOO 261F B Peacock 7-11-5	D Fortt (5)
14	5-5	SWAN STREET 21 C Mann 5-11-5	J Railton

4-6 Green Green Desert, 7-1 Swan Street, 10-1 Knave Of Diamonds, Fastini Gold, 14-1 Al Helal, Saint Amigo, 20-1 others.

1.10 DERBY EVENING TELEGRAPH HANDICAP CHASE

(£6,827: 2m 5f) (6)

1	P11-	TRYING AGAIN 206 (D,G,S) D Gandolfo 8-12-0	D Fortt (5)
2	11-4	BAVARD DIEU 21 (D,F,G,S) N Gaselee 8-12-0	A Thornton
3	122-	CALL IT A DAY 210 (CD,G,S) D Nicholson 6-11-8	A Maguire
4	PFP-	ALL THE ACES 199 (D,G,S) J J O'Neill 9-11-8	M Dwyer
5	2P3/	RIVER BOUNTY 583 (F,G,S) C Brooks 10-11-0	D Gallagher
6	522-	LORD GYLLENE 238 S Brookshaw 8-10-7	T Eley

5-4 Trying Again, 9-4 Call It A Day, 7-1 Bavard Dieu, 8-1 River Bounty, 10-1 All The Aces, 14-1 Lord Gyllene

1.40 PRD FASTENERS MAIDEN HURDLE

(Div II: £1,977: 2m) (13)

1	0/	CHANTRO BAY 717 J Pearce 6-11-5	M Dwyer
2		CYPRESS AVENUE 78F Mrs V Ward 4-11-5	Michael Brennan (5)
3		DARING RYDE 16F J Smith 5-11-5	T Eley
4	P-	KINGS CAY 98F T Caldwell 5-11-5	D Fortt (5)
5	P-4	MR GORDON BENNETT 11 B Dalton 5-11-5	X Aizpuru (7)
6	254-	MYWEND'S 187 C Brooks 8-11-5	D Gallagher
7	0	NUKUD 35 (V) G Oldroyd 4-11-5	C McCormack (7)
8	2424	ROBSERA 15 (V) J Quinn 5-11-5	F Leahy (5)
9	60-	SMOLENSK 255 J Berry 4-11-5	M Moloney
10	5/P	SOUTHERN NIGHTS 14 K Bailey 6-11-5	A Thornton
11	00-	THAT OLD FEELING 28F J White 4-11-5	A Maguire
12	0P-	VENDOON 295 (G,S) M Heaton-Ellis 6-11-5	D Bridgwater
13	P6-P	SUPER BRUSH 9 P Johnson 4-11-0	G E Smith (5)

9-2 Mywend's, 6-1 Robsera, 8-1 Cypress Avenue, Kings Cay, Southern Nights, Vendoon, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: O Sherwood, 16 winners from 56 runners, 28.6%; C Mann, 6 from 21, 28.6%; J J O'Neill, 7 from 26, 26.9%; C Brooks, 4 from 15, 26.7%; M Pipe, 36 from 138, 26.1%; K Bailey, 25 from 100, 25.0%.

JOCKEYS: A Maguire, 21 winners from 103 rides, 20.4%; D Bridgwater, 19 from 105, 18.1%; D Byrne, 3 from 19, 15.8%; D Gallagher, 8 from 56, 14.3%; J Railton, 7 from 57, 12.3%; M Dwyer, 5 from 42, 11.9%.

2.10 MASON RICHARDS HANDICAP CHASE

(£3,859: 3m 2f) (7)

1	4/1-	MUSTHAVEASWIG 443 (C,F,G) D Nicholson 10-12-0	A Maguire
2	3P-2	ROMANY CREEK 13 (V,F,G,S) J Pearce 7-11-9	D Bridgwater
3	11F-	IDIOT'S LADY 273 (D,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-9	M Dwyer
4	/06-	FAST THOUGHTS 331 (F,G,S) D Gandolfo 9-11-3	D Fortt (5)
5	321-	RECTORY GARDEN 285 (CD,G,S) T Forster 7-11-2	A Thornton
6	00-4	SAILOR JIM 8 (C,F,G,S) P Dalton 9-10-13	J Railton
7	0P-F	FLORIDA SKY 35 (G) C Brooks 9-10-12	D Gallagher

7-4 Idiot's Lady, 7-2 Musthaveaswig, 9-2 Rectory Garden, 5-1 Romany Creek, 7-1 Florida Sky, 10-1 Fast Thoughts, 14-1 Sailor Jim.

2.45 STAINLESS THREADED FASTENERS 10TH ANNIVERSARY CLASSIC NOVICES HURDLE

(Grade II: £9,600: 2m 4f 110yd) (4)

1	11-1	MAKE A STAND 21 (F,G,S) M Pipe 5-11-4	M Dwyer
2	4P-1	BIETSCHHORN BARD 14 (G) D Gandolfo 6-11-0	D Fortt
3	24-1	JACK TANNER 9 (G) D Nicholson 7-11-0	A Maguire
4		MANASIS S Brookshaw 5-11-0	T Eley

8-11 Jack Tanner, 7-4 Make A Stand, 7-1 Bietschhorn Bard, 33-1 Manasis.

3.20 EUROFAST PETROCHEMICAL SUPPLIES NOVICES CHASE

(£3,859: 3m) (6)

1	-543	DON DU CADRAN 30 (G) T Forster 7-11-0	A Thornton
2	22P-	JULTARA 198 (S) J Edwards 7-11-0	D Gallagher
3	4-	LOCH GARMAN HOTEL 178 P Dalton 7-11-0	T Eley
4	P30-	PHARANEAR 225 (F,G,S) D Nicholson 6-11-0	A Maguire
5	036-	AINSI SOIT IL 217 G McCourt 5-10-12	D Fortt (5)
6	/3B-	LORNA-GAIL 333 (G,S) R Alner 10-10-9	W McFarland

4-6 Pharanear, 5-1 Jultara, 6-1 Lorna-Gail, 7-1 Don Du Cadran, 16-1 Loch Garman Hotel, Ainsi Soit Il.

3.50 DERBY EXPRESS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,710: 2m) (6)

1	6231	YUBRALEE 16 (D,F,G,S) M Pipe 4-12-0	E Husband
2	311-	KHALIDI 378 (D,F,G,S) D Gandolfo 7-12-0	Sophie Mitchell
3	2511	STEADFAST ELITE 14 (CD,F,G) J J O'Neill 5-10-11	R McGrath
4	142-	JEMIMA-PUDDLEDUCK 5F (D,G) A Streeter 5-10-6	W Greatrex (7)
5	4P-6	EUROLINK SHADOW 35 D McCain 4-10-0	D Fortt
6	050/	DOOLAR 534 (CD,F,G,S) P Dalton 9-10-0	Michael Brennan

7-4 Yubralee, 5-2 Khalidi, 3-1 Steadfast Elite, 5-1 Jemima Puddleduck, 14-1 Eurolink Shadow, 25-1 Doolar.

Mulligan begins to repay investment

MULLIGAN took the first steps towards repaying his price tag with an impressive round of jumping to win the Undergear 'Terra Tire' Novices' Chase at Uttoxeter yesterday.

The David Nicholson-trained six-year-old, a £100,000 purchase out of Mouse Morris's yard in Ireland, had run well in top class novice company over hurdles. "He's jumped fences like that from day one," Nicholson said. "He's done everything that was asked of him today and we'll keep him at two miles for the time being."

SANDOWN PARK

THUNDERER

12.55 Doctor Green. 1.25 Plunder Bay. 1.55 Lightening Lad. 2.30 Strong Medicine. 3.00 Betty's Boy. 3.30 Trail Boss. 4.00 Wade Road.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

12.55 COUNTY SOUND RADIO JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE

(£2,801: 2m 110yd) (8 runners)

1	111	DOCTOR GREEN 11 (V,D,F,G) M Pipe 11-10	C Maude
2	31	SQUIRE'S OCCASION 7 (D,F) R Akehurst 11-10	S Ryan (5)
3		HANBITOOH 182F G Harwood 11-3	G Bradley
4		PLEASURELAND 42F R Curtis 11-3	D Morris
5	3	SERENUS 15 N Henderson 11-3	M A Fitzgerald
6		SHOOTING LIGHT 42F P Murphy 11-3	C O'Dwyer
7		STERLING FELLOW 19F (B) D Williams 11-3	K Gaule (3)
8		DEUX CARR Bob Jones 11-0	J F Titley

6-4 Doctor Green, 2-1 Serenus, 7-2 Squire's Occasion, 10-1 Hanbitooh, 20-1 Shooting Light, Sterling Fellow, 25-1 others.

1.25 ALDANITI NOVICES CHASE

(£3,469: 2m) (5)

1	P1-1	PLUNDER BAY 15 (F,S) N Henderson 5-11-7	M A Fitzgerald
2	PPP-	AARDWOLF 203 (G,S) C Brooks 5-11-0	G Bradley
3	22-2	AMANCIO 21 (S) G Harwood 5-11-0	C Maude
4	2U-0	FULL OF TRICKS 18 J Bridger 8-11-0	D Morris
5	460-	GROOVING 240 (G,S) J Gifford 7-11-0	P Hide

5-4 Plunder Bay, 2-1 Amancio, 4-1 Grooving, 8-1 Aardwolf, 20-1 Full Of Tricks.

1.55 LONDON RACING CLUB HANDICAP HURDLE

(£4,879: 2m 110yd) (7)

1	614-	KINGSFOLD PET 210 (D,G,S) M Haynes 7-11-10	D Skyrme
2	215-	LONESOME TRAIN 343 (D,F,G) C Weedon 7-11-9	M Richards
3	-414	NON VINTAGE 7 (D,G,S) M Chapman 5-11-7	W Worthington
4	3-11	HAMILTON SILK 18 (D,F,G) M Pipe 4-11-3	G Bradley
5	/11-	LIGHTENING LAD 359 (D,G,S) J King 8-11-0	C Maude
6	14-1	CRACK ON 24 (D,F,G,S) P Hobbs 6-10-12	M A Fitzgerald
7	042-	MANEREE 215 (D,F,G,S) N Callaghan 9-10-0	J F Titley

9-4 Hamilton Silk, 11-4 Crack On, 9-2 Lightening Lad, 7-1 Kingsfold Pet, 8-1 Lonesome Train, 10-1 Maneree, 12-1 Non Vintage.

2.30 SOUTH EAST RACECOURSE OF THE YEAR HANDICAP CHASE

(£4,811: 2m 4f 110yd) (5)

1	3P-1	STRONG MEDICINE 15 (D,F,G) K Bailey 9-12-0	C O'Dwyer
2	P32-	GOLDEN SPINNER 196 (CD,G,S) N Henderson 9-11-7	M A Fitzgerald
3	5-23	CONTI D'ESTRUVAL 34 (D,BF,F,G) G Balding 6-11-7	P Hide
4	035-	KING CREDO 187 (C,F,G,S) S Woodman 11-11-5	J F Titley
5	12-P	SHAARID 148 (D,F,G) I Balding 8-10-11	G Bradley

5-4 Strong Medicine, 7-2 Golden Spinner, 5-1 Conti D'Estruval, King Credo, 7-1 Shaarid

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: G Harwood, 6 winners from 17 runners, 35.3%; Miss H Knight, 6 from 25, 24.0%; J Old, 6 from 30, 20.0%; M Pipe, 9 from 55, 16.4%; J Gifford, 20 from 123, 16.3%; P Hobbs, 4 from 32, 12.5%; G Balding, 7 from 60, 11.7%; C Brooks, 4 from 39, 10.3%.

JOCKEYS: J Titley, 4 winners from 15 rides, 26.7%; C Maude, 4 from 22, 18.2%; P Hide, 9 from 66, 13.6%; G Bradley, 7 from 63, 11.1%. Only qualifiers.

3.00 GUNPOWDER PLOT HANDICAP CHASE

(£6,743: 3m 110yd) (5)

1	F63-	WELLSFORD 189 (C,F,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 13-12-0	G Hogan (3)
2	123-	COOL DAWN 215 (D,F,G,S) R Alner 8-11-6	Miss D Harding
3	241-	BETTY'S BOY 197 (F,G,S) K Bailey 7-10-10	C O'Dwyer
4	111-	GREY SMOKE 203 (D,F,G,S) Miss H Knight 6-10-7	J F Titley
5	414-	INCHCAILLOCH 21F (C,G,S) J King 7-10-1	C Maude

2-1 Grey Smoke, 9-4 Betty's Boy, 7-2 Cool Dawn, 4-1 Inchcailloch, 10-1 Wellsford

3.30 SURREY RACING NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,840: 2m 6f) (9)

1	1124	RIVER ROOM 14 (BF,F,G) K Bailey 6-12-0	W Walsh (7)
2	1-1	MONTEL EXPRESS 29 (F,G) K Bailey 4-11-10	C O'Dwyer
3	PP-F	TRAIL BOSS 24 Miss H Knight 5-11-8	J F Titley
4	032-	EL FREDDIE 206 J Old 6-11-3	G Upton
5	000-	ROVESTAR 206 J King 5-10-9	C Maude
6	5633	POSITIVO 7 Miss C Caine 5-10-1	D Leahy
7	-21P	HYLTERS CHANCE 26 (BF,F) P Hobbs 5-10-0	L Harvey
8	-218	EMBLEY BUOY 7 (G,S) J Mullins 8-10-0	S Curran
9	4P-0	CAREY'S COTTAGE 21 Mrs P Townsley 6-10-0	M Richards

2-1 Montel Express, 5-2 Trail Boss, 5-1 El Freddie, 7-1 River Room, 8-1 Embley Buoy, 12-1 Hylters Chance, 16-1 others

4.00 WEATHERBYS STARS OF TOMORROW OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE

(£1,998: 2m 110yd) (14)

1	1	PROTOTYPE 50 (F) G Johnson Houghton 5-11-11	M A Fitzgerald
2	1-	WADE ROAD 220 (F) Miss H Knight 5-11-11	J F Titley
3		AZTEC WARRIOR K Bailey 5-11-4	Mr R Wakley (7)
4		FOREST MUSK P Hobbs 5-11-4	D J Kavanagh (5)
5	6-	FRENO 197 K Bailey 5-11-4	C O'Dwyer
6		KNIGHT'S CREST R Dickin 6-11-4	Derek Byrne
7		MR MARKHAM J Gifford 4-11-4	P Hide
8		STENCIL P Mooney 4-11-4	S Ryan (5)
9	2	THE BREWMASTER 29 I Williams 4-11-4	G Bradley
10		THUNDER ROAD R Dickin 5-11-4	R Bellamy
11	0-	BELLIDIUM 198 A Jessop 4-10-13	R Massey (3)
12		DIAMOND LADY Miss B Sanders 4-10-13	M Richards
13	0-	MISS BARTHOLOMEW 252 Mrs J Pitman 6-10-13	G Hogan (3)
14		SAUCY NUN I Williams 4-10-13	C Maude

6-4 Wade Road, 5-1 Prototype, The Brewmaster, 8-1 Forest Musk, 10-1 others.

Danoli continues chasing education

TWO of Ireland's best National Hunt horses are in action over the weekend. Danoli, fourth in the Champion Hurdle in March, continues his education over fences in the Quinns of Naas Novices' Chase at Naas today. After a comfortable victory at Clonmel last week, the Tom Foley-trained eight-year-old will be a warm order to follow up.

Klairon Davis will be an even hotter favourite to beat two rivals on his seasonal reappearance at Leopardstown tomorrow. The winner of the Arkle Trophy and Queen Mother Champion Chase at the last two Cheltenham Festivals should defy top-weight of 12st in the Commology Handicap Chase over two miles and one furlong.

NEWCASTLE

THUNDERER

1.00 King Pin. 1.30 Solomon's Dancer. 2.05 Jock's Cross. 2.40 Kilcolgan. 3.10 Done Well. 3.45 Charming Gale.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

1.00 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE

(Qualifier £2,295: 2m) (10 runners)

1		AR AGHAIDH ABHAILE Miss M Milligan 5-11-0	A S Smith
2	1-P	B THE ONE 7 (F) J Quinn 5-11-0	R Garritty
3	44	FAITHFUL HAND 9 Mrs S Smith 6-11-0	R Wilkinson (7)
4	411-	KING PIN 183 (G) P Beaumont 4-11-0	R Supple
5	/00-	NICK ROSS 347 R Brewis 5-11-0	K Johnson
6	60-0	PERSUASIVE TALENT 21 D Lamb 5-11-0	B Harding
7	50-4	PRIMITIVE HEART 14 J Howard Johnson 4-11-0	A Larnach
8	0P0-	SCOTTON GREEN 255 T Easterby 5-11-0	L Wyer
9	500	TEDDY EDWARD 13 Mrs A Naughton 6-11-0	J Supple
10		UN POCO LOCO Mrs J Brown 4-11-0	P Niven

7-4 King Pin, 9-2 Faithful Hand, 5-1 Primitive Heart, 7-1 B The One, 8-1 Scotton Green, 14-1 Un Poco Loco, 16-1 others.

1.30 TOP OF THE NORTH NOVICES CHASE

(£2,853: 2m 110yd) (5)

1	0-12	BLUE CHARM 25 (D,BF,F) Mrs S Bradburne 6-11-9	R Garritty
2	5-41	DOWN THE FELL 14 (F,G,S) J Howard Johnson 7-11-9	N Williamson
3	65-1	GOLDEN HELLO 8 (D,F,G,S) T Easterby 5-11-9	L Wyer
4	13-1	SOLOMON'S DANCER 14 (G) G Richards 6-11-9	A Dobbin
5	63-3	SHAWWELL 14 (F,G) J Charlton 9-11-3	B Storey

6-4 Solomon's Dancer, 9-4 Golden Hello, 5-1 Down The Fell, 8-1 Blue Charm, 25-1 Shawwell.

2.05 JACKDAW HANDICAP HURDLE

(£3,355: 3m) (5)

1	00P-	ATTADALE 189 (C,D,F,G,S) L Lungo 8-12-0	M Foster
2	F142	TALLYWAGGER 7 (CD,F,G) G Moore 9-11-13	J Callaghan
3	10-1	JOCKS CROSS 14 (D,G,S) G Richards 5-11-7	A Dobbin
4	1121	NOTABLE EXCEPTION 9 (C,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-2	P Niven
5	04-5	D'ARBLAY STREET 7 (B,G,S) W Kemp 7-10-0	S McDougall

5-4 Jocks Cross, 11-4 Notable Exception, 7-2 Tallywagger, 6-1 Attadale, 16-1 D'Arblay Street.

2.40 PEATY SANDY HANDICAP CHASE

(£4,463: 3m 6f) (8)

1	30-4	GRANGE BRAKE 35 (F,G,S) N Twiston-Davies 10-11-7	D Walsh (3)
2	0F0-	INTO THE RED 224 (CD,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 12-11-3	P Niven
3	21-2	JOE WHITE 7 (F,G) J Howard Johnson 10-11-2	N Williamson
4	31P1	ROYAL VACATION 7 (F,G) G Moore 7-10-9	J Callaghan
5	244-	KILCOLGAN 247 (F,S) Mrs J Goodfellow 9-10-0	G Cahill (3)
6	22-6	GOLDEN FIDDLE 7 (S) J Oliver 8-10-0	B Storey
7	12-3	SIDE OF HILL 21 (BF,F,S) B Mactaggart 11-10-0	G Lee (3)
8	P02U	OFF THE BRU 21 (F,G,S) Mrs S Bradburne 11-10-0	Mr M Bradburne (7)

9-4 Royal Vacation, 5-2 Grange Brake, 5-1 Joe White, 8-1 Into The Red, Kilcolgan, 10-1 Golden Fiddle, 12-1 others.

3.10 EKBALCO HANDICAP HURDLE

(£4,824: 2m) (9)

1	41-3	HOME COUNTIES 21 (D,BF,F,G,S) D Moffatt 7-12-0	D J Moffatt
2	304/	JAZILAH 588 (D,G,S) R Allan 8-11-9	S Melrose (7)
3	151-	MARCHANT MING 28F (D,G,S) M Hammond 4-10-13	R Garritty
4	2-41	DIRECT ROUTE 7 (D,F,G,S) J Howard Johnson 5-10-11	N Williamson
5	00-F	THORNTON GATE 14 (CD,BF,F,G,S) T Easterby 7-10-10	L Wyer
6	-P46	OUR KRIS 7 (B,D,G) M Sowersby 4-10-8	D Parker
7	2-52	DONE WELL 5 (CD,F,G) P Monteith 4-10-1	A Dobbin
8	F00/	RAFFY'S DREAM 572 (D,F,G) D McCune 8-10-0	K Johnson
9	5-P0	URBAN DANCING 7 (D,G,S) B Ellison 7-10-0	G Cahill (3)

11-4 Direct Route, 3-1 Marchant Ming, 4-1 Home Counties, 6-1 Thornton Gate, 7-1 Our Kris, 8-1 Done Well, 16-1 others.

3.45 SWIFT HANDICAP CHASE

(£3,703: 2m 4f) (3)

1	U16-	EASBY JOKER 215 (CD,G,S) S Kettlewell 8-12-0	P Niven
2	034F	CROSS CANNON 7 (F,G) J Wade 10-11-8	T Reed
3	-521	CHARMING GALE 29 (V,D,F,G,S) Mrs S Bradburne 9-10-8	L Wyer

4-5 Easby Joker, 7-4 Charming Gale, 9-2 Cross Cannon.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley, 28 winners from 125 runners, 22.4%; G Richards, 12 from 58, 20.7%; M Hammond, 15 from 105, 14.3%; Mrs J Goodfellow, 3 from 23, 13.0%; G M Moore, 8 from 63, 12.7%; R Allan, 3 from 24, 12.5%.

JOCKEYS: N Williamson, 6 winners from 18 rides, 33.3%; P Niven, 30 from 118, 25.4%; R Garritty, 8 from 45, 17.8%; A S Smith, 3 from 17, 17.6%; L Wyer, 15 from 90, 16.7%; T Reed, 13 from 80, 16.3%; B Harding, 6 from 42, 14.3%.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Doncaster

Going: soft

1.00 (7f) 1, HANDSOME RIDGE (J Carroll, 20-1); 2, Ninth Chord (W Ryan, 7-1); 3, Bint Baladee (L Dettori, 11-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 5 Valagalore (6th), 7 Purist, 8 Just Grand, 10 Awesh, Royal Castle, 14 Nash Point (5th), Tol Tol (4th), Winter Garden, 16 Shades Of Love, 20 Ewer Arrangement, Fife Major, Hever Golf Magic, 25 Briggs Turn, 33 Chief Predator, Silver Button, Stahr, Tarradale. 20 ran. 1l, hd, 4l, 1¼l, ½l. J Gosden at Newmarket. Tote: £43.10; £13.00, £3.80, £1.50. DF: £121.50. Trio: £92.40. CSF: £173.28.

1.30 (6f) 1, SOVIET STATE (J Reid, 6-5 fav); 2, Nor-Do-I (P Bloomfield, 33-1); 3, Wild Sky (S Drowne, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Stamp, 6 Nariskin (4th), 8 Share Delight (6th), 10 Savona (5th), 14 Kippilaw, 20 Bicton Park, Flying Thatch, Gadroon, 33 Bright Gold, Crosby Nod, Ella Lamees, Jay-Owe-Two, Sally Green, Van Chino. 17 ran. NR: Sea Ya Maite. 3l, 1¼l, hd, 2½l, sh hd. P Chapple-Hyam at Manton. Tote: £2.10; £1.10, £15.20, £5.80. DF: £48.30. Trio: £353.10 (part won; pool of £452.65 carried forward to 3.30 at Doncaster today). CSF: £54.55.

2.00 (1m 6f 132yd) 1, PRUSSIAN BLUE (W Ryan, 11-4 jt-fav); 2, Poltarf (L Dettori, 11-4 jt-fav); 3, Further Flight (M Hills, 11-4 jt-fav). ALSO RAN: 9 Purple Splash (4th). 33 Patiala (5th). 5 ran. Sh hd, 3l, 5l, dist. H Cecil at Newmarket. Tote: £3.30; £1.70, £1.70. DF: £4.30. CSF: £9.72.

2.30 (1m 2f 60yd) 1, RUSSIAN SNOWS (L Dettori, 5-2 jt-fav); 2, Questonia (K Fallon, 10-1); 3, Highland Gift (K Darley, 5-2 jt-fav). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Parrot Jungle (4th), 8 Miss Universal, 9 Papaiha (6th), 12 Berenice, 14 Omara, 20 Story Line (5th). 9 ran. 3¼l, 6l, sh hd, 1½l, nk. S bin Suroor at Newmarket. Tote: £3.10; £1.10, £2.60, £1.30. DF: £19.40. Trio: £10.40. CSF: £26.65

3.00 (5f) 1, MYRMIDON (L Dettori, 7-1); 2, Figlia (L Charnock, 25-1); 3, Royal Blackbird (R Mullen, 7-2 fav). ALSO RAN: 5 Express Girl, 13-2 Mungo Park, 7 Salty Behaviour, 12 Regal Equity, Sarabi, 14 Sous Le Nez (6th), William's Well (4th), 16 Whisper Low, 20 Nomore Mr Niceguy (5th), 25 Molly Drummond. 13 ran. NR: Molly Music. 3l, 1l, 1½l, hd, ½l. J Dunlop at Arundel. Tote: £7.90; £3.10, £8.30, £1.80. DF: £122.60. Trio: £420.60. CSF: £147.05. Tricast: £878.56.

3.30 (1m) 1, CATIENUS (K Darley, 5-2); 2, Sunbeam Dance (J Reid, 7-1); 3, Kaiser Kache (O Urbina, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 5-6 fav Bold Demand (4th), 14 Night Mirage (5th), 50 Catinas Flower (6th). 6 ran. Hd, 6l, ½l, sh hd, dist. M Stoute at Newmarket. Tote: £2.70; £1.70, £2.70. DF: £9.70. CSF: £18.40.

4.00 (5f) 1, HIGH DOMAIN (J Weaver, 20-1); 2, Chadwell Hall (C Teague, 20-1); 3, Nineacres (R Ffrench, 20-1); 4, Spender (G Duffield, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 6-1 jt-fav Fame Again (5th), Gone Savage, 8 Sing With The Band, 9 Splicing, 10 Daawe, 11 Walk The Beat, 12 Bee Health Boy, Lady Sheriff, Shadow Jury, 14 Brecongill Lad, Midnight Spell, 25 Chemcast, Cross The Border, Eastern Prophets (5th), Goretski, Johayro, Master Of Passion, Perfect Brave. 22 ran. Hd, nk, ½l, dd-ht, hd. J Spearing at Alcester. Tote: £25.70; £6.30, £5.60, £3.30, £4.70. DF: £271.90. Trio: £2,375.20. CSF: £365.80. Tricast: £7,287.46.

Jackpot: £7,100.00 (0.1 winning tickets. Pool of £4,851.60 carried forward to Doncaster today).

Placepot: £26.70. Quadpot: £10.70.

Hexham

Going: good to firm

1.20 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Buyers Dream (G Cahill, 9-2); 2, Crafty Chaplain (3-1 jt-fav); 3, Forward Glen (5-1). Willie Sparkle 3-1 jt-fav. 6 ran. 4l, 1¾l. B Ellison. Tote: £8.40; £2.40, £1.60. DF: £6.00. CSF: £17.43.

1.50 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Beggars Banquet (B Grattan, 10-11 fav); 2, Papensung (6-4); 3, The Next Waltz (9-1). 9 ran. NR: Chief Gale. 1¼l, 20l. P Beaumont. Tote: £1.80; £1.00, £2.00, £3.40. DF: £1.70. Trio: £8.30. CSF: £2.76.

2.20 (3m 1f ch) 1, Gems Lad (R Guest, 7-1); 2, Commandeer (5-1); 3, Pantara Prince (5-2 fav). 8 ran. NR: Allerton Lad. 9l, 3¼l. Mrs S Smith. Tote: £8.90; £1.80, £2.40, £1.50. DF: £14.30. Trio: £30.40. CSF: £39.81.

2.50 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Belle Rose (A Dobbin, Evens fav); 2, Kings Minstral (33-1); 3, Antarticstern (5-1). 12 ran. 3l, 10l. G Richards. Tote: £1.90; £1.60, £13.40, £1.20. DF: £60.20. Trio: £118.60. CSF: £36.28. Tricast: £129.68.

3.20 (2m 110yd ch) 1, Abbeylands (N Williamson, 7-2 jt-fav); 2, Ballyline (7-2 jt-fav); 3, Kiltulla (5-1). Show Your Hand 7-2 jt-fav. 11 ran. 3½l, 8l. J Johnson. Tote: £4.20; £2.60, £1.00, £3.20. DF: £4.80. Trio: £19.60. CSF: £18.32. Tricast: £62.65.

3.50 (2m hdle) 1, Apollo's Daughter (A Dobbin, 6-1); 2, Pangeran (2-1 fav); 3, Trotao (6-1). 7 ran. 2½l, 3l. J Goulding. Tote: £13.00; £3.90, £3.10. DF: £26.60. CSF: £20.87.

Placepot: £18.20. Quadpot: £8.90.

Uttoxeter

Going: good

1.10 (2m 6f 110yd hdle) 1, General Mouktar (A P McCoy, 4-1); 2, Victoria Day (16-1); 3, Pru's Profiles (12-1). Sovereign Grit 9-4 fav. 16 ran. 7l, ½l. M Pipe. Tote: £4.10; £1.50, £4.50, £4.10. DF: £40.50. Trio: £86.20. CSF: £68.15.

1.40 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Always Greener (S Curran, 11-2); 2, Dragonmist (9-4 fav); 3, Le Baron (3-1). 13 ran. Nk, 1½l. J Mullins. Tote: £8.10; £2.30, £1.30, £1.90. DF: £13.20. Trio: £10.10. CSF: £19.05.

2.10 (2m 5f ch) 1, Micherado (R Johnson, 4-1); 2, Bironi (3-1 fav); 3, Desert Brave (16-1). 10 ran. 4l, 4l. S Brookshaw. Tote: £3.90; £1.40, £2.00, £3.40. DF: £5.90. Trio: £95.70. CSF: £15.59. Tricast: £157.07.

2.40 (2m hdle) 1, Bassenhally (R Marley, 13-2); 2, Ragamuffin Romeo (9-4 fav); 3, Prussia (8-1). 9 ran. 1¼l, 7l. Mrs P Sly. Tote: £7.00; £2.00, £1.10, £2.40. DF: £15.80. Trio: £23.70. CSF: £20.75. Tricast: £109.86.

3.10 (2m ch) 1, Mulligan (A Maguire, 4-9 fav); 2, Flaming Miracle (33-1); 3, Scottish Bambi (10-1). 7 ran. 6l, 3¼l. D Nicholson. Tote: £1.50; £1.50, £3.60. DF: £12.50. CSF: £13.96.

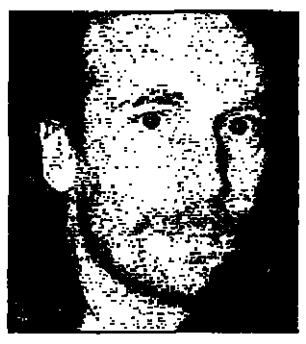
3.40 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Deymiar (R Dunwoody, 3-1); 2, High Grade (10-1); 3, Pharare (15-8 fav). 6 ran. Nk, 4l. D Gandolfo. Tote: £3.40; £1.60, £3.90. DF: £15.90. CSF: £26.47.

4.10 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Elburg (M A Fitzgerald, 14-1); 2, Ballindoo (4-1); 3, Mr Flutts (12-1). Apachee Flower 9-4 fav. 12 ran. NR: Rosie-B. 10l, 6l. T George. Tote: £10.60; £2.70, £2.00, £5.00. DF: £25.40. Trio: £262.00. CSF: £69.37. Tricast: £661.98.

Placepot: £28.70. Quadpot: £7.80.

Mixed blessing of buying a round for Tyson

SIMON BARNES



On Saturday

Perhaps the most intriguing aspect of the orgy of pan-galactic boxing championships this weekend is the initiative taken by the cable television company, Cable Systems Corp, which claims to have 2.8 million subscribers in and around Cleveland, Ohio. Naturally, this involves the phenomenon of pay-per-view.

Now, the thing is with boxing, and most especially with bouts featuring Mike Tyson, is that you never know how much you are getting. A bout may last no more than a few seconds. So if you buy a ten-round bout that lasts for one punch and a count of ten, you might be a little miffed.

Cable Systems are permitting subscribers to buy as many rounds as they like of the meeting between Tyson and Evander Holyfield tonight, at $9.95 a round. The only thing is, you have to place your order in advance. The maximum punt allowed is for five rounds and upward, at a mere $49.95.

Not everybody is ecstatic about this. A referee is always hated for stopping a bout. He invariably does so either too soon or too late, and the money's worth of punters has a lot to do with this. Joe Ralston, lawyer for the Nevada State Athletic Commission, under whose auspices the bout is run, said: "The commission is concerned about the public perception about the sport of boxing." I'll bet.

Hey up looks like he's going for a really long one
T.H.

Hear we throw

The most important record in football is, of course, that for the longest throw-in. I am proud to announce that Andy Legg, of Birmingham City, has just broken his own world record, improving from 40.54 metres to 44.54 metres. He managed this majestic feat in a throw-in competiton organised by *Total Football* magazine (fans of Vinnie Jones can comfort themselves with the thought that Vinnie goes for accuracy off a flat trajectory rather than simple distance). The inaptly-named Legg said: "I don't really know why I am able to throw a ball so far. I used to play a lot of decent standard tennis and you bend your back considerably when serving. Perhaps that's where the power comes from."

Queue for action

Women in MCC: it's both a lot closer and a lot further than you think. A working party under Charles Robins is to report to the MCC general purposes sub-committee on its findings about the possibilities of a female membership.

Robins says that he is "open-minded", adding that the subject of lottery money (MCC cannot get any partly because it will not allow women) "may have highlighted the issue, but I am not going to be bullied by it", whatever that means. But there is a problem with the idea of jumping women up the famous 20-year waiting list. Some are inclined to predict the election of a couple of "honorary" — don't, whatever you do, say "token" — women members. And the rest go to the back of the queue, which neatly disposes of the problem for at least 20 years. Can we have our lottery money now please?

Diego on line

Diego update: the dear boy, purely out of the love and respect he has for the ladies and gentlemen of the media, has decided to become a journalist himself. Diego tells us he will work as an interviewer for a local television station that has exclusive rights to show the matches in which he plays. This would be a better deal for the company if Diego were actually playing any matches. He has not played for his club, Boca Juniors, for two months, though he has said that he would like to play for them "once" before the year ends.

"Instead of playing I'll do a series of special programmes," he said. He says he will interview Fidel Castro and Nelson Mandela; Diego and Fidel are old buddies and Diego has often said that he would like to live in Cuba when he retires. So what about one last match, Diego? "I haven't decided to have a farewell match because I'm very sensitive," he said. "I cry a lot."

Demolition derby

One need never be bored when one watches football in the Maracanã. Hear about the latest match in Brazil's ancient and majestic stadium, a Rio derby between Botafogo and Vasco da Gama? Tulio scored for Botafogo, apparently miles offside but the referee, George Travassos, let it stand. The Vasco manager, a part-time policeman named Antonio Lopes, invaded the pitch, was restrained by the opposition bench and sent off by the ref. The Vasco vice-president, Eurico Miranda (weight 17st), then staged a ponderous pitch invasion of his own and held up play for 20 minutes while the ref cowered in his dressing-room.

Eventually, Travassos was persuaded to return — whereupon he started whistling everything in Vasco's favour. An equaliser was scored, and then Edmundo "The Animal" scored for Vasco, a goal even further offside than the one that caused all the trouble in the first place. Whereupon another pitch invasion took place, this one led by the Botafogo president, Carlos Augusta. At the final whistle, the Botafogo players advanced on the ref for an intellectual discussion, but he managed to escape. So a linesman got a kicking instead.

BOWLS

Scotland pair on target

KENNY LOGAN and Alex Marshall, of Scotland, shrugged off being caught in the middle of a gun battle between armed robbers and the Royal Hong Kong Police on Thursday to qualify for the quarter-finals of the Manulife Regent International Pairs Classic at Kowloon yesterday (David Rhys Jones writes).

Logan and Marshall, the holders, were on the green for more than ten hours, beating Zimbabwe 19-17, Ireland 20-14 and, ironically, a team from the Hong Kong Police, 24-16.

Andy Wills and Stuart Airey, of England, who also witnessed the gun battle, in which one robber was shot dead, suffered their second defeat, a 22-20 reverse against Bill McMahon and Noel Kennedy, the Hong Kong internationals.

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FOOTBALL

Scotland prepare both with and without McAllister

By Kevin McCarra

AFTER all the exhaustion of *fighting a losing battle*, Scotland may almost be surprised to find that a greater contest still lies ahead of them. Tomorrow at Ibrox, they play *Sweden* in a World Cup qualifier that could take them to the top of group four. *Only* now is a football match making a belated bid to muscle its way back onto the agenda.

So far, there has been far greater discussion of the decision by Fifa, the world ruling body, to order a replay of the *Estonia versus Scotland* match that could not go ahead last month after the home team failed to turn up. Gary McAllister, the Scotland captain, was supposed to serve a suspension in that game and Fifa ruled that the ban should now be applied to tomorrow's *fixture*.

The Scottish Football Association (SFA) spent yesterday attempting to appeal against that verdict, believing that, in these peculiar circumstances, it would be fairer if McAllister *missed the restaged match* with Estonia. An SFA spokesman *said that* Fifa was "thinking seriously" about the matter, but last night there was still no news of a change of heart.

Craig Brown, the Scotland manager, said he would be *happy to pick the Coventry* City midfield player even if notice of his *availability* only came through 90 minutes before kick-off at Ibrox. As it is, Brown's plans for the game have been of a provisional *nature, with different line-ups* being prepared in training, one of them employing McAllister.

That irritating necessity is typical of a distracting week for Scotland. Brown has attempted to keep his squad's *minds fixed on the game with* Sweden, but that requirement makes a vast demand of their powers of concentration. In one respect, however, reflection on the Estonia decision could hone their appetite for tomorrow's encounter.

The World Cup organising committee that made the ruling was chaired by a Swede, Lennart Johansson, and the propriety of his participation in discussions has been questioned by the SFA. Brown is eager that the meeting with Sweden *should not* be portrayed as a grudge match,

Collins: key role

but he could not help but appreciate the value of a grievance.

"*In adversity*," he said, "Scotland are, in the best sense, a fighting team. *I'm* not talking about fisticuffs. I mean that we battle with heart and head." Emotional issues made for a more comfortable topic *than the selection of a side for* the game.

McAllister is unlikely to be available and, with Stuart McCall injured, the midfield must be reconstructed. Billy McKinlay, Craig Burley and Paul Lambert all come into *contention*, but the greatest onus in that area will now lie with John Collins.

Fifa yesterday rejected Celtic's claim for a transfer fee for the player, whom the club believe to have left the EC when *he joined AS Monaco*. A statement from Celtic said that "the matter will not be laid to rest on the basis of Fifa's pronouncement today". Once the appeal process has been exhausted, the issue could be the subject of legal proceedings.

Tomorrow, however, the *scrutiny of Collins will come* from the 49,000 people inside Ibrox. The fact that the game has been sold out demonstrates a revival of interest in the national team. It would be ironic if Scotland were to fail now, having so often succeeded, in recent years, while being *ignored by most of the public*.

Sweden are enigmatic opponents. *They finished* third at the 1994 World Cup, but then failed to qualify for the 1996 European championship. Last month, they were beaten at home by Austria and they must avoid defeat in Glasgow if they are to *protect their remaining prospects* in group four. Nevertheless, their talented players feature on the books of Europe's leading clubs. After a week of unpleasant surprises, Scotland are not quite sure what to *expect* at Ibrox.

☐ Rangers last night decided not to appeal against a four-match Uefa suspension handed to Paul Gascoigne after he was sent off in the 4-1 defeat by Ajax in Amsterdam last month for kicking Winston Bogarde. Rangers will not appeal against the *sentence nor a fine* of around £2,500 from Uefa, European football's governing body, for their side's poor disciplinary record in that European Cup Champions' League fixture.

GROUP FOUR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sweden	3	2	0	1	7	3	6
Scotland	*2*	*1*	*1*	*0*	*2*	*0*	*4*
Austria	2	1	1	0	1	0	4
Belarus	4	1	1	2	3	7	4
Estonia	2	1	0	1	1	1	3
Latvia	3	0	1	2	2	5	1

RESULTS: Sweden 5 Belarus 1; Austria 0 Scotland 0; Belarus 1 Estonia 0; Latvia 1 Sweden 2; Latvia 0 Scotland 2, Estonia 1 Belarus 0, Belarus 1 Latvia 1; Sweden 0 Austria 1; *Estonia v Scotland — match abandoned, to be replayed*

MATCHES TO COME: Today: Austria v Latvia. Tomorrow: Scotland v Sweden. *March 29 1997: Scotland v Estonia*. April 2: Scotland v Austria. April 30: Austria v Estonia; Sweden v Scotland; Latvia v Belarus. May 18: Estonia v Latvia. June 8: Latvia v Austria, Estonia v Sweden, *Belarus v Scotland*. Aug 20: *Estonia v* Austria, Belarus v Sweden. Sept 6: Austria v Sweden; Latvia v Estonia, Scotland v Belarus. Sept 10: Belarus v Austria; Sweden v Latvia. Oct 11: Austria v Belarus; Sweden v Estonia; Scotland v Latvia.

SCOTLAND (3-5-2): J Leighton (Hibernian) — C Calderwood (Tottenham Hotspur), C Hendry (Blackburn Rovers), T Boyd (Celtic) — J McNamara (Celtic), C Burley (Chelsea), W McKinlay (Blackburn Rovers), J Collins (AS Monaco), T McKinlay (Celtic) — D Jackson (Hibernian), W Dodds (Aberdeen).

SWEDEN (4-4-2): T Ravelli (IFK Gothenburg) — R Nilsson (Helsingborgs IF), P Andersson (Borussia Mönchengladbach), J Bjorklund (Rangers), G Sundgren (AIK Stockholm) — N Alexandersson (IFK Gothenburg), S Schwarz (Fiorentina), J Thern (AS Roma), J Blomqvist (IFK *Gothenburg*) — *K Andersson (Bologna)*, M Dahlin (Borussia Mönchengladbach).

IAN STEWART

Brown, taking Scotland training yesterday, has a deeper knowledge of the international game than some more famous predecessors

Canny operator smiles through setbacks

David Miller says although Scotland's manager works with limited playing resources he has achieved enviable results

As far back as I can *remember, to their* World Cup teams of *1958* and *1962*, Scotland have frustratingly tended to be less than the sum of their parts. It is to the credit of Craig Brown, their present manager, that with few players of serious international calibre, he has *consistently* created *teams in* which two plus two has made five.

This is something that Matt Busby, Andy Beattie, Ian McColl, Jock Stein, Bobby Brown, Tommy Docherty, *Willie Ormond*, Ally McLeod, Alex Ferguson and Andy Roxburgh seldom managed to achieve. The best team of all, in the Baxter-Law era, were admittedly most unlucky to lose a qualifying play-off in *1962 to Czechoslavakia*, eventual finalists.

Brown's equation for leading his team to the finals in France has suffered a double blow this week, with the decision by Fifa that the *abandoned match in Estonia* should be replayed — predictable, but tough on Scotland — and that McAllister, suspended for that match, must fulfil his suspension in tomorrow's important home tie against Sweden, the group leaders.

The setbacks will not reduce Brown's unobtrusive optimism. *Although* he *has* a squad which, he admits, lives in the hope rather than the expectation of scoring goals, he will not deviate from his *management* philosophy with players throughout the past 15 years.

"To be organised, but to be *happy*," he says, with that smiling, benign expression reminiscent of Michel Hidalgo, of France, who won the European title in 1984 and *was so close to glory in World* Cups immediately before and after. "The players know they'll get an honest deal, and encouragement," Brown says. It was a sensible, though little predicted, decision when the *Scottish FA (SFA) appointed* him three years ago to succeed Roxburgh.

There is an old joke about there being two queues outside the SFA: a short one for the manager's post, a long one for the off-licence concession. Brown was not even considered to be in the shorter one *when Roxburgh resigned*.

Yet his apprenticeship had been sound and successful, however seemingly anonymous. Becoming Roxburgh's assistant in 1986, the former unsophisticated wing half *with Dundee and* Falkirk then went into management with Motherwell and Clyde. For 7½ years he was in charge of the under-21 team. The side that lost the 1992 European semi-final — to Sweden — *contained* Jess, *Gemmill*, Lambert, Spencer and Ferguson, players central to his present squad.

He knows as much or more about the international game as the more famous names *who were supposedly in front* of him in the short queue. "For ten years, my job has been in European football," he says, matter-of-factly. In addition to the under-21 side, he led the youth team to the world final in 1989, losing to Saudi Arabia on penalties, and the under-20 team to the *quarter-final in 1987*.

Behind the laughing eyes, however, lies a pragmatic attitude. With few aces in his hand, Brown needs to tread a canny path. He will not name a team tomorrow until the last *moment, denying* Tommy Svensson, his opposite number, any possible assistance. He regards Svensson as one of the foremost tacticians.

Brown likes to consider himself a manager who acts *rather than reacts: retaining* Jess, even though he is currently not in the Coventry line-up; preferring Goram in goal, when fit, to the trusted, veteran Leighton, who makes an emotional 75th appearance *tomorrow* in front of Scotland's first 50,000 crowd for seven years.

"You've got to make value judgments," he says, "however tough they are." He did so when dropping the regular McStay against Italy.

He contrives to give his players freedom within a regular structure. "We try, but often fail, to have consistency in selection [because of withdrawals]. Where there are technical deficiencies, you *make up* with emphatic organisation, such as our zonal-marking back-three formation. Whoever plays, they know what to do".

The result is a squad without dissent; a group who *spontaneously* applauded McAllister for consenting to a television interview shortly after he had critically missed a penalty against England in Euro 96 and could have been forgiven for hiding. Brown is *gratified that his squad is* courteous and without arrogance. "I find the job a pleasure, win, lose or draw," he says, "and in Scotland, people are hard to please."

He's not shouting about it, *but in 28 games so far he has a* better record than some of the more illustrious managers of the past. Sweden will have no easy passage.

Wales still wary of Dutch disunity

From Russell Kempson in Eindhoven

HOLLAND are at it again. Some players are unhappy with Guus Hiddink, the coach; some are at odds with the Dutch *media*; and some are missing because of injury. It is a familiar story: *Holland* in apparent disarray.

It was the same during the European championship and the same before Holland *played Wales in Cardiff last* month, with tales of discontent *rife among the camp followers*. Yet, on the day of the group seven World Cup qualifying match at the National Stadium, with a much-changed and supposedly depleted line-up, Holland *clawed back a 1-0 deficit and* won, at a canter, 3-1.

GROUP SEVEN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wales	3	2	0	1	12	3	6
Belgium	*2*	*2*	*0*	*0*	*5*	*1*	*6*
Holland	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Turkey	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
San Marino	3	0	0	3	0	14	0

RESULTS: San Marino 0 Wales 5 Wales 6 San Marino 0, Belgium 2 Turkey 1; Wales 1 Holland 3; San Marino 0 Belgium 3

MATCHES TO COME: Today: Holland v *Wales*. *Tomorrow: Turkey v San Marino* Dec 14: Belgium v Holland; Wales v Turkey. March 29 1997: Wales v Belgium, Holland v San Marino. April 2: Turkey v Holland. April 30: San Marino v Holland, Turkey v *Belgium*. *June 7*: Belgium v San Marino. Aug 20: Turkey v Wales. Sept 6: Holland v Belgium. Sept 10: San Marino v Turkey. Oct 11: Holland v Turkey, Belgium v Wales

Tonight, for the return tie here, Holland are professing similar pre-match problems. Michael Reiziger, the defender, has fallen out with the Dutch journalists; Edgar Davids, the midfield player, did not get the guarantee of a *place*, which he vigorously sought, and was consequently left out; and *Marc Overmars* has also questioned Hiddink's judgment. Overmars wants to play *in* the middle up front. Hiddink wants him in his usual wing role. *The result?* Overmars will probably start on the substitutes' bench.

It goes on. Jordi Cruyff is out of form and has not been selected. Patrick Kluivert is *not* fit yet. Pierre van Hooijdonk is also troubled by injury and Johan de Kock was taken to hospital on Thursday night with internal bleeding in *his groin*.

Bobby Gould, the Wales manager, has his own problems, with Chris Coleman, Ryan Giggs, Mark Hughes, Ian Rush and Barry Horne all absent. However, he does not *have the strength in depth that* Hiddink has to call on.

Holland are *still* favourites to win and Wales seem to have little but spirit and resolve to get them through. At least Gould has experienced a *mood swing*, from one of apparent depression over the *first three days here to one of* enlightenment.

"It's been difficult, with so many of our players dropping out," Gould said yesterday, "but I enjoyed our last training session, probably for the first time this week. We know it's going to be hard, we know it'll be tough whatever team Holland put out. We can't let them have as much of the ball as we did in Cardiff. That's got to be our priority."

The inclusion of Vinnie Jones and his appointment as captain, should add to Wales's ball-winning capabilities and provide a ready source of *inspiration*. "*When the lads* are tired, when they can hardly put one foot in front of the other, that's when I'll do my bit," Jones said.

Holland have already assigned a marker, Wim Jonk, to attempt to counter the Jones factor. "I have heard that he is a hard man, but I'm not afraid *of that," Jonk said*. "*I'm not* a player who will duck anything and we know what we are facing. We are ready for it."

HOLLAND (probable 3-5-2): E van der Sar *(Ajax)* — M Reiziger (AC Milan), F de Boer (Ajax), J Stam (PSV Eindhoven) — A Numan (PSV Eindhoven), A Winter *(Internazionale)*, C Seedorf *(Real Madrid)*, W Jonk (PSV Eindhoven), P Cocu (PSV *Eindhoven*) — D Bergkamp (Arsenal), R de Boer (Ajax). WALES (probable 3-5-2): N Southall (Everton) — A Melville (Sunderland), K Symons *(Manchester City)*, M Bowen (West Ham United) — J Robinson *(Charlton Athletic)*, M Browning (Bristol Rovers), V Jones (Wimbledon), M Pembridge (Sheffield Wednesday), G Speed (Everton) — D Saunders (Nottingham Forest), J Hartson (Arsenal)

Klinsmann settles in at home

From David Maddock in Nuremburg

JURGEN KLINSMANN was *smiling*. "*I hear these rumours* all the time," he said. "The German newspapers have to fill space, just the same as in your country." The grin indicates that he is happy enough to live with the speculation *that has surrounded his* occasionally troubled time with Bayern Munich.

He is referring to the recurring reports that he will be returning to the FA Carling Premiership, a league he *graced for one glorious year* with Tottenham Hotspur.

It is true, Klinsmann said, that he has encountered problems on his return to Germany but, sadly for an ever-more cosmopolitan Premiership, the difficulties are not severe enough to force him *to leave his native country*.

"It was not the best of starts, and there have been problems along the way," he said. "We were knocked out of Europe in the first round and that was a big, big disappointment. I got *quite* a lot of stick because I missed a penalty against Valencia that *may have* cost us the tie — but things have calmed down now and we are leading in the championship.

"For all my respect for the *Premiership. I have started* something here in Germany and I want to see it through. I can say at the moment I will finish my career in Germany."

Germany entertain Northern Ireland today in a World *Cup qualifying match, their* first home game since succeeding Denmark as the champions of Europe, and Klinsmann has been eager to renew acquaintance with those Northern Ireland players *that ply their trade in the* Premiership. His happy state of mind is, no doubt, further eased by the prospect of a contest that has a one-sided look about it.

Northern Ireland have, in fact *not* lost to Germany in four matches since they were *defeated 5-0 when they visited* Cologne in 1977. To extend the sequence would be nothing short of miraculous for an Ireland team woefully short on resources. Germany will be without six injured players *this afternoon* and *yet their* line-up is still powerful enough to instil a sense of foreboding into the hearts of every other footballing nation.

"We still have a lot to improve on tactically and technically," *Klinsmann said*. "*In* fact I would say maybe we were not tactically or technically the best team in the European championship. We are not as good technically as, say, the Italians, but we have such a *strong mentality*. Other teams respect Germany *because they know we never* give up."

His ambition is to captain Germany in the finals in France in 1998 and then, perhaps, turn his thoughts to retirement. Klinsmann will *not, though, immediately* join his good friend Ruud Gullit in the brave new world of management, despite offers that are already rolling in.

"I have watched Ruud with interest, we are friends from *our times in Italy* and we speak a lot," he said. "I think he has done very well as a manager, and maybe one day . . . but for me I need a break when I retire, I want a certain distance from football to go away *and do things and* after that I will see."

GROUP NINE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ukraine	2	2	0	0	3	1	6
Portugal	3	1	1	1	4	2	4
Germany	1	1	0	0	5	1	3
Armenia	3	0	2	1	2	6	2
Northern Ireland	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Albania	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

RESULTS: Northern Ireland 0 Ukraine 1; *Armenia 0 Portugal 0; Northern Ireland 1* Armenia 1; Ukraine 2 Portugal 1, Albania 0 Portugal 3; Armenia 1 Germany 5

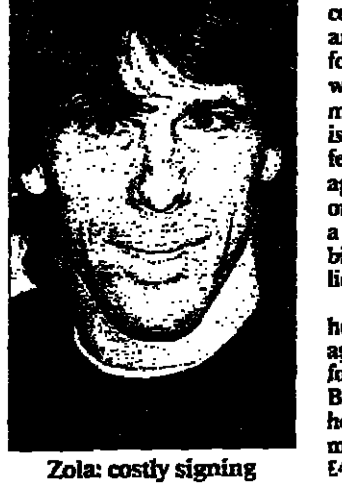
MATCHES TO COME: Today: Albania v Armenia. Germany v Northern Ireland. Portugal v Ukraine. Dec 14: Northern *Ireland v Albania; Portugal v Germany*. March 29 1997: Albania v Ukraine, Northern Ireland v Portugal. April 2: Albania v Germany; Ukraine v Northern Ireland. April 30: Germany v Ukraine, Armenia v Northern Ireland. May 7: Ukraine v Armenia. June 7: Portugal v Albania; Ukraine v Germany. Aug 20: Northern Ireland v *Germany, Portugal v Armenia; Ukraine v* Albania. Sept 6: Germany v Portugal; Armenia v Albania. Sept 10: Albania v Northern Ireland, Germany v Armenia. Oct 11: Germany v Albania, Portugal v Northern *Ireland*, Armenia v Ukraine.

GERMANY (probable: 5-3-2): A Kopke *(Marseilles)* — T Strunz (Bayern Munich), S *Reuter* (Borussia Dortmund), *J Kohler* (Borussia Dortmund), M Babbel (Bayern Munich), M Tarnat (Karlsruhe) — T Hassler (Karlsruhe), D Eilts (Werder Bremen), A Moller (Borussia Dortmund) — J *Klinsmann (Bayern Munich)*, O *Bierhoff* (Udinese).

NORTHERN IRELAND (4-5-1): T *Wright* (Nottingham Forest) — I Nolan (Sheffield Wednesday), G Taggart (Bolton Wanderers), B Hunter *(Reading)*, N Worthington (Stoke City) — K Gillespie (Newcastle United), S Lomas (Manchester City), C Hill (Leicester City), N Lennon (Leicester City), M Hughes (West Ham United) — I Dowie (West Ham United).

Chelsea set to break bank for Zola deal

By Jason Nisse



Zola: costly signing

CHELSEA yesterday signed Gianfranco Zola, the Italy striker, from Parma in a *contract that makes him* among the most expensive footballers in England and will cost the London club as much in a year as Newcastle *is paying for Alan Shearer*. A fee of £4.5 million has been agreed between the clubs and, on top of that, Zola has signed a two-year deal worth 11 *billion* lira (about £4.4 million).

At the end of the contract, however, he will be a free agent who can leave Chelsea *for no fee, thanks to the* Bosman ruling. That means he will cost Chelsea £8.9 million over two years, or £4.45 million a year.

By comparison, Newcastle United paid £15 million to Blackburn Rovers for Shearer, *but signed him on a five*-year deal. His contract pays him £25,000 a week, plus bonuses. It is anticipated that Shearer will be able to earn at least £1.5 million a year, making his annual cost up to £4.5 million each season.

Chelsea, rocked by the death of Matthew Harding, *the vice-chairman, and then* by the resignation of Peter Middleton, a director, will be hard-pressed to finance Zola's wages. The club's operating *profits from the 1995-96 sea*son were cut from £3 million to £654,000 because of its spiralling wage bill. In addition, transfer payments of £2.6 million plunged the club into the red and the City is expecting a large loss for this *season*.

A number of leading figures have attacked the size of contracts for leading footballers. Alan Sugar, the chairman of *Tottenham Hotspur*, recently said that he could not understand how Newcastle could justify the payments for Shearer and also questioned the motivation of ageing overseas stars coming to the FA Carling Premiership.

Zola, who is due to fly to London on Monday, is the *third player in a year to leave* Parma for England after Faustino Asprilla went to Newcastle and Tomas Brolin joined Leeds United.

Repentant Keane handed new role

From Peter Ball in Dublin

ROY KEANE is an unlikely candidate as a prodigal son, but if Mick McCarthy, the Ireland manager, has no intention of endangering any fatted calves, he is delighted to welcome back Keane after a nine-match absence for tomorrow's World Cup qualifying *match against Iceland at* Lansdowne Road. It will be Keane's first appearance since he was sent off against Russia in McCarthy's first game as manager.

Since then injuries and French leave last *summer*, when Keane went missing before the trip to the United States, have kept the Manchester United midfield player out of McCarthy's plans. "I regret what happened," a contrite Keane said yesterday. "I know I should have tried harder to contact Mick, but we got together and sorted things out before the *Charity Shield. Now* I'm just glad to be playing for Ireland again."

What position Keane will play, however, remains to be seen. In *his absence*, McCarthy has been pleased with his central midfield, and the indications yesterday were that, with Iceland expected to play with only one front *man*, Keane may be drafted into the back three.

It is a role he has filled in the past for Nottingham Forest and, less frequently, for Manchester United. For Ireland, he will be given a licence to come out from the back in the *manner* of Matthias Sammer, the Germany sweeper, who was the outstanding player in Euro 96.

"Roy's probably the best in the defensive *position* in a midfield three," McCarthy *said*. "So what's so different from doing it from the back? We've got plenty of fluent movement from our midfield three. If I decide to play Roy at the back, I *think he could* come out from that position *and get involved*. Him playing there was something I first thought about when I got the job.

"It gives you something extra if you've got somebody who is comfortable bringing it [the ball] out. *You saw* Sammer doing it in the European championship and it was hugely successful. Nobody is telling me that Sammer is better than *Roy Keane at* playing football."

Apart from deciding Keane's role in the side, McCarthy is also left to ponder his choice *of a forward to* partner Tony Cascarino. John *Aldridge* is the most likely, but he sat out most of a heavy training session in Dundalk yesterday, because *of a groin* problem. McCarthy, though, *is* confident that Aldridge — who needs two goals to break Frank Stapleton's record of 20 for Ireland — *will play*.

With Iceland seriously below *strength*, a lot of responsibility for denying Aldridge will fall on Larus Sigurdsson, the impressive *Stoke City* central defender.

The sell-out crowd at Lansdowne Road tomorrow will include McCarthy's predecessor, Jack Charlton, who will watching Ireland for the first time since he resigned in January.

[illegible]

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ireland	2	2	0	0	8	0	6
Romania	2	2	0	0	7	0	6
Lithuania	3	2	0	1	4	4	6
Macedonia	3	1	1	1	4	4	4
Iceland	3	0	1	2	1	7	1
Liechtenstein	3	0	0	3	1	10	0

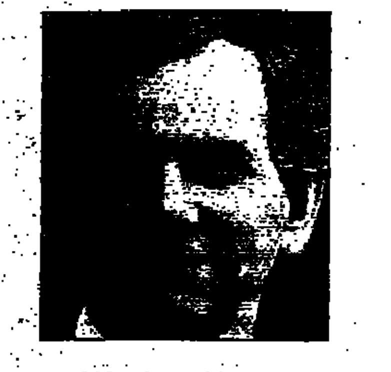
RESULTS: Macedonia 3 Liechtenstein 0; Iceland 1 Macedonia 1; Liechtenstein 0 Ireland 5; Romania 3 Lithuania 0; Lithuania 2 Iceland 0; Iceland 0 Romania 4; Ireland 3 Macedonia 0; *Lithuania 2* Liechtenstein 1.

MATCHES TO COME: Today: Liechtenstein v Macedonia. Tomorrow: Ireland v Iceland. Dec 14: Macedonia v Romania. *March 29 1997: Romania v Liechtenstein* April 2: Lithuania v Romania; Macedonia v Ireland. April 30: Liechtenstein v Lithuania; Romania v Ireland. June 7: Ireland v Liechtenstein; Macedonia v Iceland. June 11: *Iceland v Lithuania*. *Aug 15*: Liechtenstein v Iceland. Aug 20: Ireland v Lithuania; Romania v Macedonia. Sept 6: Iceland v Ireland; Liechtenstein v Romania; Lithuania v Macedonia. Sept 10: Romania v Iceland; Lithuania v *Ireland*. *Oct 11*: Iceland v Liechtenstein; Ireland v Romania; Macedonia v Lithuania

هكذا من الاصل

Right way to protect the new Lawtons

ROB HUGHES



Weekend View

Tommy Lawton, a legend in his lifetime, passed from his game and his life this week. At much the same time, the Football Association and the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) put the finishing touches to a new initiative, the thorough medical screening of YTS players, that at least should ensure that youth is taken care of in the game.

This end of abuse towards childhood, which many sports have blindly persevered with, at last corrects an imbalance. The game is making a genuine start, at sizeable financial cost, to safeguard the bodies of tomorrow's Lawtons.

Graham Kelly, the chief executive of the FA, recently outlined proposals to spend £268,400 on orthopaedic and cardiovascular screening of every one of the 1,525 trainees now coming in to the professional clubs.

The screening begins early in 1997 and is a direct response to alarming instances of severe injuries caused by overuse and biomechanical defects identified among the 14-year-old boys selected as pupils of the FA School of Excellence, at Lilleshall.

Between this season and next, the FA and the players' union will spend over £400,000, with support from the FA Premier League and the Football League, proving that it is child's play for the disparate bodies of the game to attend to the growing bodies of young players.

Already, consultant orthopaedic surgeons, with a proper knowledge of the game, have agreed a £35 fee per player for orthopaedic screening, while the cardiovascular examinations will cost £141. This investment in the welfare of future generations is intended to continue.

It may or may not prevent the kind of tragedy, the rare heart defect, that claimed Terry Yorath's young son a few years ago. It may spare boys the shin splint complaints that Nick Barmby and Andy Cole suffered for so many months. Perhaps we will have seen the last child pushed through school, club and county demands until something as severe as curvature of the spine wrecks their future life, never mind the joy of playing football.

A marvellous Radio Five Live tribute to Lawton by Jimmy Armfield, however, provided a reminder of the need for an extra set of tests for the brain. Lawton could articulate the deep and enduring satisfaction he got from the identity the game gave to his life. It expanded him into a person beloved by many, the archetypal centre forward whose forehead met the ball with astonishing power and unerring accuracy, right beneath the centre parting of his black hair.

The nostalgia that Armfield tweaked out of his subject had a soft edge. This sometimes hides the long lapses into moroseness, the migraines as well as the arthritic pains, that countless great players endure.

Lawton, like many of his generation, had no help from the pain of withdrawal and little for the wear and tear on a person's most precious commodity, the mind. Two decades ago, conducting, admittedly, an unscientific survey, I discovered 55 former players, almost all of them centre forwards or centre halves, whose premature deaths through brain injury appeared to be traceable to repetitive heading of the ball. They, like Lawton, operated in days of the heavy leather ball, but today's football moves measurably faster and today's opponents jump, often with elbows spread, to try to ensure that no clean contact is made between forehead and ball.

We are running away from the obvious if we do not consider some screening of the head. In Norway, researchers following up the investigation found repetitive injury in leagues as high as Italy's *Serie A*, the symptoms being similar to those of the "punch drunk" boxer. A professional osteopath, Mike Tetley, from Hertfordshire, demonstrated that the shape of the skull itself is not always suitable for heading.

All in the past? At Newcastle last Sunday, Emerson collided with David Batty. Both needed treatment, both appeared stunned and the Brazilian buckled and fell to the ground some minutes after the collision.

I wonder, could that have had anything to do with his reported threat not to return to Middlesbrough? He was allowed to complete the match, whereas in most responsible sports the automatic medical rule applies that anyone with suspected concussion is removed from danger until medically approved.

So, a huge welcome to the initiative of the FA and the PFA. Possibly, in time, the money spent will replace some of the millions the union spends on trying to ease the pain and immobility of former professionals. But, a personal plea — remember that English football is still played pretty much in the air and a game earning such a fortunes must protect individuals from top to bottom.

Timeless talent keeps Southall sane

Russell Kempson on how the Wales goalkeeper is saving the best till last

SHAUN BOTTERILL

Southall will seek to keep his 34th international clean sheet in Wales's World Cup qualifying match in Eindhoven tonight

Goalkeepers are a strange bunch. Madness abounds — often laced with genius, its constant companion — and what you see is not always what you get. Ordinary exteriors hide peculiar traits: eccentricity is a professional must, clowns one minute, marvels the next. Welcome to the crazy club.

Neville Southall, MBE, of Wales and Everton, is in his seventeenth season as a fully paid-up member. When the goalkeeping gloves were handed out, he was near the front of the queue, yet he hails from the relatively less lunatic branch of the bizarre brethren. His ability, and sanity, have rarely been questioned.

THE FACE OF FOOTBALL

He turns up early, trains hard, does the job and goes home. Back to Llandudno, where he was born, still lives and feels most comfortable. Back to his wife, Eryl, and daughter, Samantha: away from the spotlight, the adulation, the unreal existence.

Southall, 38, former hod carrier and dustman, is a reluctant participant in a sometimes weird yet mostly wonderful game. Were it not for his special talent and the rewards that go with it, he would probably have never ventured forth from his beloved North Wales.

Venture forth he did, though, and when Wales play Holland in Eindhoven tonight in a group seven World Cup qualifying match, he will make the 854th appearance of his career. He will win his 89th cap and will endeavour, against alarming odds, to keep his 34th international clean sheet.

Southall is a private yet personable soul, quirky and contradictory too. Now and again, he rivals Bruce Grobbelaar, the undisputed king of the crazies, for his thorny crown; now and again, he appears temporarily to depart planet Earth.

Six years ago, on the opening day of the season, he made a premature exit from the half-time team talk, returned to the pitch and sat forlornly in one of the Goodison Park goalmouths, so disturbed was he by Everton's dismal display. A year later, after Everton had been beaten in the final of the Zenith Data Systems Cup, he declined to climb the Wembley steps to collect his memento. "Who wants a ZDS loser's medal?" he reasoned.

And then last year, after Everton had defeated Manchester United in the FA Cup Final, he preferred to drive back to Llandudno rather than attend the victory banquet with his team-mates. "If you had spent nine months with that lot, you'd want to go home as well," he said.

From his formative years — playing for Craig y Don, in the Tremorfa League — it was quickly apparent that Southall would eventually move onwards and upwards. Meaningful progression had to wait, though, as he switched allegiance to Llandudno Swifts in the Welsh League North.

Swifts had neither pace nor skill, with Southall, at 14 in a men's game, regularly conceding double-figure tallies. But for his agility, the scores could have been doubled, a fact recognised by Bangor City. He then joined Winsford United and, after 44 matches with Bury, arrived at Goodison Park for £150,000 in July 1981.

Many medals, of the winners' variety, have been accepted with relish. Two in the League championship, two in the FA Cup, one in the European Cup Winners' Cup, three in the Charity Shield. In 1985, he was voted footballer of the year. Southall shows no signs of letting up. He has settled his pre-season spat with Everton and signed a two-year contract. He has not missed a match this season and his form is excellent.

He is also immersing himself in all things Welsh — from assisting Bobby Gould, the Wales manager, with his duties, to fundraising for clubs in the League of Wales, to coaching for the Football Association of Wales.

When he agreed to help Conwy United to prepare for their Intertoto Cup campaign this year, the players expected a brief session and an early trip to the bar. At 11pm, the sweat-soaked, moustached figure was still pounding the turf, still barking out his instructions. The lads loved it.

He is dedicated, steadfastly blinkered in his approach to everything, yet while it has not been easy to go public, to thrust himself into the glare, he realises that the gap between playing full time and coaching full time is fast diminishing. He has to prepare for the future.

He was interviewed for the Wales job, before Gould was appointed 15 months ago, and now conducts the post-match media inquests as part of his international brief. He copes calmly and confidently, without bluster or baloney; he drops in the occasional joke, with a wry grin. Eccentric? Perhaps. Crazy? No way.

SNOOKER

Scotland put on alert by Hendry

From Phil Yates
in Bangkok

EMOTIONALLY drained after their 10-9 victory over Wales on Thursday, Thailand have an unenviable task against the formidable Scottish trio of Stephen Hendry, John Higgins and Alan McManus in the semi-finals of the World Cup here today.

Expectations will be high for the over-achieving host nation, even though, on paper at least, Thailand have little chance, with Noppadon Noppachorn and Thai Pishit, two members of their team, ranked outside the world's top 120.

Yet a partisan crowd, a sluggish table and the staccato tournament format — no one player is in action for two consecutive frames — all serve to act as a great leveller. "That's why we'll be taking nothing for granted," Hendry said.

On the way to beating Northern Ireland 10-6 in the quarter-finals, Scotland responded to an impending crisis with breaks of 76, 84, 72 and 73 in pulling away from 6-5 to an ultimately comfortable victory.

"That was particularly pleasing for the team. We know if we play out best we will win the title," Hendry said. It is hard to dispute the fact that they are overwhelming favourites to share the £105,000 first prize and lift the solid gold King of Kings trophy, itself valued at £25,000.

Thailand were fortunate to edge past a Welsh team depleted by the sudden return home of Darren Morgan, their captain, because of the death of his mother. To conclude a match that lasted over seven hours, James Wattana inspired widespread scenes of jubilation by clearing green to pink, including a fluked brown, to beat Mark Williams.

In yesterday's first semi-final, Ireland withstood a mid-match onslaught from England to establish a surprise 8-7 lead and move within two frames of victory.

Although the Irish recovered from 2-0 down to lead 4-2, England were set to seize control when Nigel Bond, with a 61 break, Peter Ebdon, who put together a run of 99, and Ronnie O'Sullivan, assisted by an 84 break, convincingly carried them 5-4 ahead.

England, however, proved unable to capitalise on this brief purple patch as Doherty constructed breaks of 66 and 69. Fergal O'Brien took a frame from Ebdon and Stephen Murphy, the world No 61, inflicted another defeat on the England captain as Ireland threatened to cause an upset.

IN BRIEF

Two-year drug ban for rugby player

THE Welsh Rugby Union yesterday suspended Paul Jones, the Llanelli lock, for two years after he admitted taking a banned drug (David Hands writes). Jones, 24, is the second such offender from Wales (the first, in 1991, was Ritchie Griffiths, a Wales B centre) whose drug-testing programme, a commission of inquiry emphasised, is the most stringent in the rugby world, with 80 tests a year.

The ban was back-dated to August 16, the day when Jones — who has represented Wales A — told club officials that he had received injections of testosterone to help in the rehabilitation of a shoulder injury. The inquiry took his admission and genuine remorse into account in their sentence.

Els strides on

Golf: Ernie Els, the world No 3 from South Africa, took wet fairways and monsoon weather in his stride to shoot a one-under-par 71 for a three-round total of 209 and open a two-stroke lead in the eight-player, country-hopping Johnnie Walker Super Tour in Manila yesterday.

After rounds in Taipei, Seoul and Manila, the four-city tournament flies into Bangkok tomorrow for the final round. Els leads from Colin Montgomerie, of Scotland, who also handled the conditions well to score a 71, and Ian Woosnam. The Welshman shot a one-over-par 73.

☐ Laura Davies made a good start to her pursuit of her third successive Itoen Ladies title with a four-under-par 68 for a one-stroke lead in incessant rain in Chosei, Japan, yesterday.

Cup challenge

Hockey: The challenge from the Channel Islands for the Hockey Association Cup will be resumed tomorrow when Jersey play Hampstead and Westminster in third-round match at Paddington Recreation Ground (Sydney Friskin writes). Hampstead's high-scoring forward line includes Robert Thompson, the England and Great Britain centre forward, who recently left Hounslow.

Sri Lanka stroll

Cricket: Sanath Jayasuriya picked up three wickets for 15 runs from five overs to lead Sri Lanka to a 75-run victory over Pakistan in the three-nation Singer Champions' Trophy in Sharjah yesterday. After being bowled out for 206 in 49.3 overs, Sri Lanka then dismissed Pakistan for 131 in 36 overs for an emphatic victory.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

7UP TROPHY: Leopards 92 Thames Valley 93. Sheffield 73 Leicester 88
EUROPEAN LEAGUE: Group A: CSKA Moscow 96 Panionios Athens 86. Maccabi Tel Aviv 89 Limoges 77. Group B: Alba Berlin 62 Olympiakos Piraeus (Gr) 61. Estudiantes Madrid 78 Croona Zagreb 77. Charleroi 81 Teamsystem Bologna 78. Group C: Barcelona 88 Croatia 70 Ljubljana (Slovenia) 74 Panathinaikos (Gr). Villeurbanne (Fr) 74 Bayer Leverkusen 62. Group D: Kinder Bologna (It) 75 Efes Pilsen (Turk) 83
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Orlando 108 New Jersey 95 (in Tokyo). Houston 110 Denver 108 (OT). Seattle 103 Phoenix 98. Portland 95 Minnesota 94 (OT). New York 105 Golden State 100. Atlanta 91 Sacramento 87

BOWLS

KOWLOON, Hong Kong: Manulife Regent international pairs classic: Eighth round: Group one: A Waddell and J Noonan (Aus) bt C W Pun and P T Lee (China Light and Power) 25-11, K Logan and A Marshall (Scot) bt W Cumming and R Hayden (Zim) 19-17, T Yiu and R Tso (Victoria BC) bt S W Lo and D Chung (CSD) 28-19; N Sabli and S Sani (Malaysia) bt C Ko and A Poynton (Kowloon BC) 17-12, J Henry and N Graham (Ire) bt S Chan and V Cheung (Royal Hong Kong Police) 27-18. W Lai and A Carstairs (Hong Kong BA) bt D Tso and J Wong (Craigengower CC) 27-16. Group two: A Wills and S Avery (Eng) bt A Ruxton and A Robertson (Hong Kong CC) 27-14; P Lai and D Ha (Greendale) bt D Abraham and C C Fernandes (de Recreio) 27-18; B Chin and T Tong (Hong Kong FC) bt R Price and D Wilkins (Wales) 19-18; G Baker and N Burkett (SA) bt G Pitschou and D le Marquand (Channel Is) 20-13; A Curtain and D File (NZ) bt K Kadir and C K Cheung (Hong Kong Electric) 26-17; W McMahon and N Kennedy (Hong Kong) bt L Parker and L D'Souza (Kowloon CC) 22-12. Ninth round: Group one: Scotland bt Ireland 20-14. CLP bt CSD 29-7; Australia bt RHKP 31-8, CCC bt Victoria 21-17; Malaysia bt Zimbabwe 18-17; HKBA bt Kowloon BC 31-18. Group two: Greendale bt HK Electric 28-14; England bt Wales 26-20; New Zealand bt HKCC 23-17; Hong Kong bt HKFC 25-15; Club de Recreio bt Channel Islands 24-15; South Africa bt Kowloon CC 32-15. Tenth round: Group one: Kowloon BC bt Victoria 25-14; Ireland bt Malaysia 28-18; CLP bt CCC 25-11; Zimbabwe bt HKBA 29-12; Scotland bt RHKP 24-16; Australia bt CSD 13-11. Group two: South Africa bt HKFC 28-13; HK Electric bt Channel Islands 20-19; Hong Kong bt England 22-20. Club de Recreio bt Kowloon CC 26-15, New Zealand bt Greendale 31-11, Wales bt Hong Kong CC 21-17.

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Sydney (first day of four): New South Wales 284 (M G Bevan 79). Victoria 68-1. Brisbane (third day of four): Tasmania 168 and 176; Queensland 244 (G I Foley 82 not out) and 1-0.

Singer Champions' Trophy

Pakistan v Sri Lanka

SHARJAH (Pakistan won toss). Sri Lanka beat Pakistan by 75 runs

SRI LANKA
S T Jayasuriya c Ijaz b Wasim ... 33
†R S Kaluwitharana c Waqar b Wasim ... 12
A P Gurusinha lbw b Shahid Afridi ... 32
P A de Silva c Salim b Waqar ... 4
*A Ranatunga c Saqlain b Salim ... 23
R S Mahanama c Aamir b Saqlain ... 37
W P U J C Vaas c Shahid Afridi b Salim ... 14
H P Tillekaratne c Ijaz b Saqlain ... 20
H D P K Dharmasena lbw b Wasim ... 1
M Muralitharan b Wasim ... 4
S C de Silva not out ... 1
Extras (lb 6, w 16, nb 3) ... 25
Total (49.3 overs) ... 206

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-64, 3-79, 4-119, 5-133, 6-158, 7-191, 8-194, 9-204
BOWLING: Wasim Akram 10-0-42-4; Shahid Nazir 7-0-39-0; Waqar Younis 8-0-21-1; Saqlain Mushtaq 9.3-0-32-2, Shahid Afridi 9-0-37-1. Salim Malik 6-0-30-2.

PAKISTAN
Saeed Anwar c Kaluwitharana b S C de Silva ... 7
Shahid Afridi c Mahanama b S C de Silva ... 7
Aamir Sohail c Kaluwitharana b Muralitharan ... 14
Ijaz Ahmed run out ... 49
Azam Khan c Jayasuriya b Muralitharan ... 15
Salim Malik c Kaluwitharana b S C de Silva ... 6
*Wasim Akram b Jayasuriya ... 12
†Moin Khan c and b Jayasuriya ... 10
Saqlain Mushtaq c and b P A de Silva ... 1
Waqar Younis b Jayasuriya ... 2
Shahid Nazir not out ... 1
Extras (w 6, nb 1) ... 7
Total ... 131

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-29, 3-38, 4-48, 5-93, 6-109, 7-126, 8-127, 9-129
BOWLING: Vaas 6-1-12-0; S C de Silva 10-0-48-3. Muralitharan 7-1-33-2, Ranatunga 3-0-15-0; Jayasuriya 5-1-15-3, P A de Silva 5-2-8-1.
Man of the match: S T Jayasuriya.
Umpires: S K Bansal (India) and G Sharp (England).

TOUR MATCH (first day of three): Perth: Western Australia 293-5 dec (A C Gilchrist 108, M P Lavender 51). West Indians 53-1.

FOOTBALL

European under-21 championship

Group two

GEORGIA (0) 0 ENGLAND (0) 1
4,000 Dubarry 81
Sent off: K Kaladze (Georgia) 86

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	3	2	1	0	3	0	7
Italy	2	2	0	0	9	0	6
Poland	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Moldova	2	0	0	2	0	5	0
Georgia	2	0	0	2	0	7	0

GROUP NINE: Albania 3 Armenia 2
WORLD CUP: African qualifying zone: Group two: Egypt 7 Namibia 1 (in Cairo)
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Arsenal 0 Chelsea 2.
FA YOUTH CUP: First round: Birmingham 3 Boldmere St Michaels 0
SPANISH CUP: Second round, first leg: Merida 1 Extremadura 0. Mallorca 1 Deportivo 0; Ecija 1 Real Betis 2; Aviles 1 Oviedo 5, Salamanca 0 Real Madrid 2; Real Union 0 Zaragoza 4, Zalla 0 Athletic Bilbao 3; Alaves 1 Logrones 3, Ferrol 1 Celta Vigo 3, Eibar 1 Racing Santander 1. Albacete 0 Rayo Vallecano 0; Malaga 0 Sevilla 1. Leganes 1 Compostela 1. Levante 1 Hercules 0; Toledo 0 Sporting Gijon 0
SCHOOLS MATCH: London Cup: Essex 3 Kent 0.

GOLF

MANILA: Johnnie Walker Super Tour: Scores after three rounds: 209: E Els (SA) 67, 71, 71. 211: C Montgomerie (Scot) 68, 72, 71; I Woosnam (Wales) 68, 70, 73. 212: Lin Keng-chi (Taiwan) 67, 73, 72. 214: Park Nam-sin (S Kor) 67, 72, 75. 221: V Singh (Fiji) 72, 71, 78. 223: C Plaphol (Thai) 75, 71, 77. 225: F Casas (Phil) 71, 76, 78.
MAUI, Hawaii: Kapalua International: Leading first-round scores (US unless stated). 63: F Couples. 64: S Jones, K Triplett, M Hulbert, R Gilder. 66: J Leonard, M Brisky, D Love, T Tolles, R Cochran, P Jacobsen. 67: P Burke, B Faxon, S McCarron, J Furyk, D Clarke, T Herron, R Maltbie, G Day, B Crenshaw, C Rose. Other scores: 68: A Lyle (GB). 71: G Waite (NZ), J Daly. 73: B Lane (GB). 76: D Feherty (Ire)
GOTEMBA, Japan: Taiheiyo Masters: Leaders after two rounds (Japan unless stated). 135: H Sasaki 67, 68. 138: L Mize (US) 71, 67; J Sluman (US) 69, 69; C Rocca (It) 69, 69. H Sato 68, 70, L Westwood (GB) 68, 70. 139: M Kimura 73, 66. 140: H Kase 70, 70; K Murota 71, 69. S Maruyama 68, 72. T Maruyama 69, 71, K Idoki 73, 67. Other scores: 141: M Brooks (US) 71, 70, C Parry (Aus) 68, 73. 142: S Ballesteros (Sp) 72, 70. F Minoza (Phil) 69, 73. M Ozaki 68, 74
MELBOURNE: Women's Australian Open championship: Leaders after two rounds (GB and Ire unless stated): 139: C Dibnah (Aus) 68, 71, M Lunn (Aus) 68, 71. 140: A Read (US) 72, 68. 141: D Koyama (Japan) 71, 70. 142: S Farron (NZ) 71, 71. 144: L Neumann (Swe) 72, 72; K Webb (Aus) 72, 72; K Marshall 71, 73, J Crafter (Aus) 73, 71. 145: K Golden (US) 71, 74. 146: S Martin-Cobb (US) 71, 75. C Matthew 72, 74. J Stephenson (Aus) 72, 74, K Weiss (US) 74, 72
CHOSEI, Japan: Itoen women's tournament: Leading first-round scores (Japan unless stated). 68: L Davies (GB). 69: M Murai, F Kido, Y Motoyama. 70: M Nomura. 71: A Fukushima, A Okamoto, K Woo-soon (S Kor), Y Sato, M Furuya, M Otani. 72: K Harada, L Young-mee (S Kor), A Oshiro, M Harron, C Mei-chi (Taiwan), Y Moriguchi, M Hirase
SANTA ROSA, Philippines: Women's world amateur team championships: Leading first-round scores: 143: United States. 144: Columbia. 146: Spain, Great Britain, Italy. 147: South Korea, New Zealand, Taiwan. 148: Canada, Denmark. 149: Australia, Sweden. 150: Brazil, Finland. 151: South Africa.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Edmonton 6 Boston 0, Philadelphia 5 Buffalo 2; Florida 4 Washington 2. Ottawa 6 Toronto 2, New Jersey 4 Chicago 2. Los Angeles 4 Montreal 1

SNOOKER

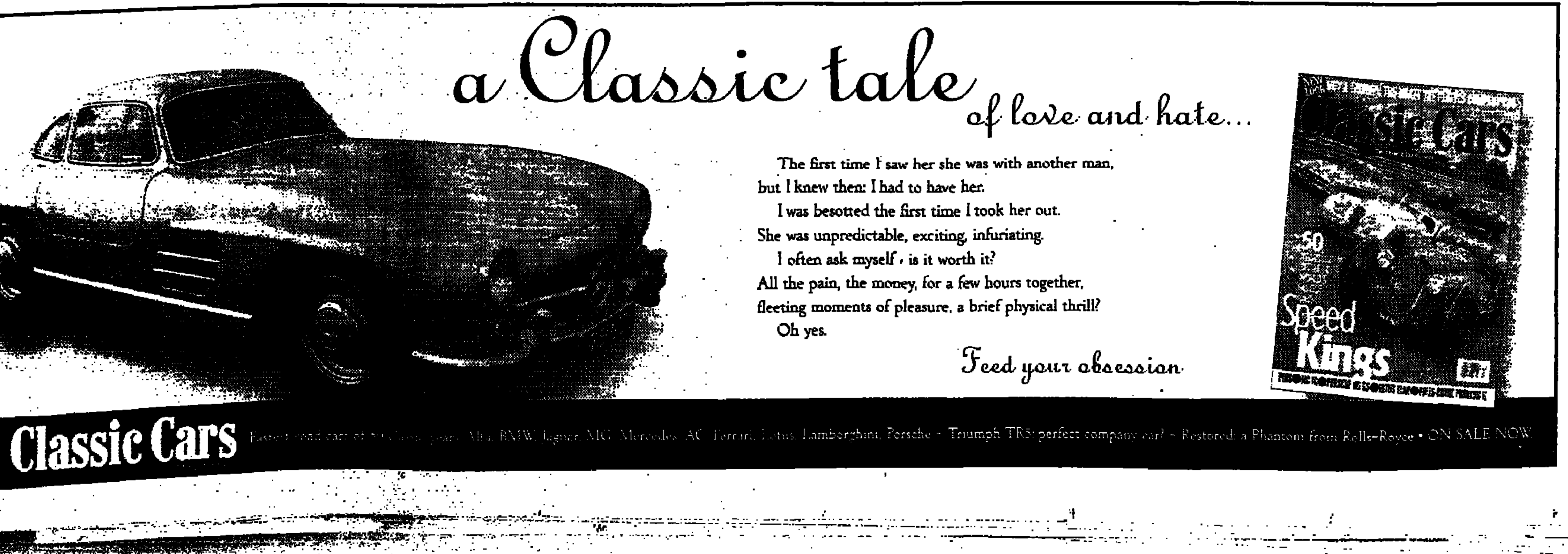
BANGKOK: Castrol-Honda World Cup: Quarter-finals: Scotland bt Northern Ireland 10-6. Thailand bt Wales 10-9. Semi-final: Ireland lead England 8-7.

SQUASH

NURTIGEN: German Masters: First round: Men: J Power (Can) bt S Baker (Aus) 15-9, 15-0, 15-8; D Harris (Eng) bt M Heath (Scot) 17-14, 15-6, 15-12. A Hill (Aus) bt B Martin (Aus) 15-12, 13-15, 17-15, 12-15, 15-12. M Chaloner (Eng) bt D Ryan (Ire) 17-14, 15-6, 11-15, 15-12, S Parke (Eng) bt M Cairns (Eng) 16-17, 8-15, 15-6, 15-4, 15-11; P Nicol (Scot) bt A Gough (Wales) 12-15, 15-10, 15-7, 17-15. C Walker (Eng) bt H Wiens (Ger) 15-8, 15-12, 15-14; R Eyles (Aus) bt C Rowland (Aus) 8-15, 15-10, 15-17, 15-7, 15-8. Women: M Martin (Aus) bt R Macree (Eng) 9-5, 9-4, 9-0; S Wright (Eng) bt P Beams (NZ) 9-5, 4-9, 9-3, 9-2. C Nitch (SA) bt S Horner (Eng) 9-4, 9-2, 10-9. C Owens (Aus) bt J Wilson (NZ) 9-2, 9-1, 9-2. S Schone (Ger) bt T Weeks (Aus) 6-9, 9-10, 9-3, 9-7, 9-3, C Jackman (Eng) bt J Martin (Eng) 9-6, 9-2, 9-6. E Irving (Aus) bt F Geaves (Eng) 9-7, 9-2, 9-6; S FitzGerald (Aus) bt J Tranfield (Eng) 9-7, 9-1, 9-6

TENNIS

MOSCOW: Men's tournament: Second round: D Prinosil (Ger) bt M Damm (Czech) 6-4, 6-7, 6-4, Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt F Clavet (Sp) 3-6, 6-4, 6-2, G Ivanisevic (Cro) bt J Hlasek (Switz) 6-2, 6-1. Quarter-finals: Kafelnikov bt B Black (Zim) 7-6, 6-2. Ivanisevic bt P Korda (Cz) 7-5, 6-0. Prinosil bt A Olhovskiy (Russ) 7-5, 6-2. A O'Brien (US) bt S Schalken (Holl) 6-3, 7-6
STOCKHOLM: Men's tournament: Second round: M Norman (Swe) bt A Radulescu (Ger) 7-5, 4-6, 6-4; T Johansson (Swe) bt F Dewulf (Bel) 6-3, 6-3. T Enqvist (Swe) bt C Woodruff (US) 7-6, 7-6. P Fredriksson (Swe) bt N Kulti (Swe) 7-5, 7-6
Quarter-finals: T Martin (US) bt R Reneberg (US) 6-2, 6-2. Norman bt V Spadea (US) 6-3, 7-6
SANTIAGO: Men's tournament: Second round: M Rios (Chile) bt M Zabaleta (Arg) 6-3, 7-6, F Mantilla (Sp) bt F Squillari (Arg) 4-6, 6-3, 6-3. F Meligeni (Br) bt J Diaz (Sp) 6-1, 3-6, 6-3. O Gross (Ger) bt L A Morejon (Ecu) 1-6, 6-4, 7-6
OAKLAND: Women's tournament: Second round: E Likhovtseva (Russ) bt M J Fernandez (US) 6-3, 6-1, I Spirlea (Rom) bt P Suarez (Arg) 6-2, 6-1. Quarter-final: M Hingis (Switz) bt L Wild (US) 6-3, 6-2
ATP RANKINGS: 1, P Sampras (US) 4,375pts, 2. M Chang (US) 3,837. 3. Y Kafelnikov (Russ) 3,486. 4. G Ivanisevic (Cro) 3,222. 5. B Becker (Ger) 3,213. 6. T Muster (Austria) 3,168. 7. A Agassi (US) 2,364. 8. T Enqvist (Swe) 2,325. 9. R Krajicek (Holl) 2,262. 10. W Ferreira (SA) 2,239



a Classic tale of love and hate...

The first time I saw her she was with another man,
but I knew then: I had to have her.
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She was unpredictable, exciting, infuriating.
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fleeting moments of pleasure, a brief physical thrill?
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BOXING 46

Celtic warrior refuses to step aside for Benn

SPORT

RUGBY UNION 47

Scotland looking to capitalise on Australian doubts

RM

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9 1996

Hoddle restores troubled defender as captain for crucial World Cup qualifier

England invest trust in Adams

From Rob Hughes, football correspondent, in Tbilisi

THE *highest honour in English* football will be restored to Tony Adams when he leads England onto the field to play Georgia in a World Cup group *two qualifying game here this* afternoon. Adams, returning after a serious knee injury, is expected to wear the armband only until Alan Shearer re*turns, yet he was unequivocal* yesterday in stating his ambition to prove such a leader that even Shearer would have to accept that the Arsenal captain *is in charge long-term.*

"I have human aspirations, like everyone else," he said. "I'm realistic and if the manager thinks it would be better for England for someone else to be captain, then I would try to give all that I can under that person. But, as a human being, I like a bit of praise. I like being the captain and, of course, I want to be the best there is."

It sounds perfectly logical and perhaps, despite all, it will *prove to be right.* Yet how could we forget, how could we look Adams in the eye and not confront the extraordinary fact that he is a man, with a long pedigree of leadership, in the first phase of attempting to conquer the alcohol dependency that he admitted last month, together with a mari*tal break-up?*

A morning in the company of Adams has a compelling openness to it. This new trend, though Adams rightly said it *is too personal and too serious* to be trendy, has suddenly confronted us with three players — Adams, Paul Gascoigne and Paul Merson — who all *require therapy for drink*-related problems. Who can say with confidence that they *know* Glenn Hoddle is making the right decisions every time?

This is not a slur on the England coach. Hoddle, just 39, is relatively new to his own calling. He has a spiritual approach of undoubted determination and integrity, but even he, surely, cannot have envisaged, approaching only his third match in charge of England's national team, such a challenge.

We almost forget we are talking about a game. It has grown, with breathtaking speed, into something invaded by business, by international politics, something hijacked *by all manner of parasites* seeking to use the players and their money . . . and now the need for professional counsel*lors. Who are the counsellors?* What do they know of the intensity of the sporting life, or of trying to take therapy down the end of a telephone line, *which itself has no reliable* consistency and which costs the Football Association £6.80 per minute — when a line can be had.

Given all these adverse circumstances, Adams seemed to take up the baton that he lost while having knee surgery as if it were as simple as breath*ing. He ducked nothing,* but then Adams never did and it is easy to believe that he will this afternoon prove a commander in the field of tempered resolution.

GROUP TWO

ENGLAND (possible, 3-4-2-1): D Seaman (Arsenal) — G Neville (Manchester United), A Adams (Arsenal), G Southgate (Aston Villa) — D Platt (Arsenal) or D Beckham (Manchester United), P Ince (Internazionale), Beckham or D Batty (Newcastle United), A Hinchcliffe (Everton) — S McManaman (Liverpool), *M Le Tissier (Southampton)* — I Wright (Arsenal)

GEORGIA (4-4-2): I Zoide (Dynamo Tbilisi) — Z Revishvili (Alania Vladikavkaz), K Tskhadadze (Eintracht Frankfurt), M Shelia (Alania Vladikavkaz), G Chikaidze (Dynamo Tbilisi) — K *Gogichaishvili (Dynamo Tbilisi),* G Kinkladze (Manchester City), T Ketsbaia (AEK Athens), G Nemsadze (Trabzonspor) — S Arveladze (Trabzonspor), G Gogrichiani (Zhemchuzhin)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England ..	2	2	0	0	5	1	6
Italy	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Poland	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Georgia	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Moldova	2	0	0	2	1	6	0

RESULTS: Moldova 0 England 3; Moldova 1 Italy 3; England 2 Poland 1; Italy 1 Georgia 0

MATCHES TO COME: Today: Georgia v England. Tomorrow: Poland v Moldova. Feb 12: England v Italy. March 29 1997: Italy v Moldova. April 2: Poland v Italy. April 30: England v Georgia, Italy v Poland. May 31: Poland v England. June 7: Georgia v Moldova. *June 14: Poland v Georgia.* Sept 10: England v Moldova; Georgia v Italy; Moldova v Georgia. Oct 7: Moldova v Poland. Oct 11: Italy v England; Georgia v Poland

TELEVISION: Sky Sports 1: coverage starts at 11am (match repeated at *6.30pm). BBC1: 10.50pm Match of the Day* (highlights). BBC Radio 5 Live: *Sport on Five* from 11.55am.

I am surprised at my own reaction to this, because the feeling has remained all week long that Paul Gascoigne is not nearly so ready to be sent into the field. Gascoigne's soul-baring over the wife-beating incident, and his apologies, have genuine sincerity; but the suspicion remains that the best Hoddle can do is to leave Gascoigne on the sidelines.

By *complete contrast,* Adams gave a thoroughly convincing impression yesterday of a man changed. "I have changed, in every way," he said. "Oh, I think he [Hoddle] knows that I've changed."

Hoddle offered Adams the captaincy in private on Thursday night. "I'm very grateful that he has shown great faith in me," the restored captain said. "I've seen things in myself that I don't like. I've looked, warts and all, and I needed to do it."

He came to this crux in his life after a summer of another kind of dependency, after seven injections into that wounded knee to get through the European championship. "It was worth the risk and I was giving everything for what I wanted to achieve for my country. The manager may say I'm looking leaner and, in *practical terms, I suppose I'm* bound to, not drinking Guinness.

"What the counselling is doing for me is personal. I won't go into it, but I have changed my life. I've had this mask on for all these years. I've changed my football, too. It has opened up a new field for me since George Graham left. For eight years, I was suppressed because he wanted a particular type of player. He got success with it, but, through different systems since. I've expressed myself a bit *more* and I think I've opened some eyes."

Adams said that he feels comfortable as the central figure in a three-man defence. *He insisted that the leadership* style, the fist-in-the-face motivational tactic, that Hoddle said three months ago he would never resort to, has *gone.*

"I've changed in that way as well. I'm trying to lead by example; what I said to the Arsenal players: 'If you want encouragement, *look at me.* I'll be running, and kicking for you.'" Adams is the only certainty to start that Hoddle will give in public until just before kick-off. He is concerned about the patchiness of the pitch and the passion of the crowd, which is liable to exceed 76,000.

"Technique is their strength, they have it across the midfield and you could say my thinking is to do something about that. But we want to win the match." The coach and his captain know the team, the *task and the extent of the trust* that they have placed in one another in the name of England.

CLIVE BRUNSKILL/ALLSPORT

Adams tries on the captain's armband in Tbilisi yesterday after being asked to lead England in the absence of Shearer

Players vote for Jones to tackle the lead role with Wales

From Russell Kempson in Eindhoven

VINNIE JONES sat in a hotel coffee shop here yesterday, earring in his left lobe and tattoo near his left ankle, almost shaking with emotion. *His voice quivered and, occasionally,* his eyes welled up. Jones — football bad boy and perennial curse of the establishment — had been handed *the* captaincy of his adopted country for the first time.

Jones, 31, in only his sixth international appearance, will lead Wales into their World Cup group seven qualifying match against Holland this evening. The former hod carrier and now Wimbledon midfield player and captain, who has been sent off 12 times, had completed the most unlikely of journeys.

He could barely take in the news. "So much is going on *inside me and* I can't really explain what it is," he said. "I just feel tremendous pride. It has to be the proudest day of my life."

Jones replaces Barry Horne, who is injured, as captain and was the unanimous choice of the Wales squad. In a bizarre secret ballot, with Bobby Gould, the manager, providing the pens and paper, the players voted for Jones to wear the armband.

"Everyone applauded at the result," Gould, who once managed Jones at Wimbledon, said. "I've always said that Vinnie has been under*rated. People have tended to* concentrate on the other facets of his character. Many ex-professionals might say that this is a sad day for football, and Vinnie will *have to* understand that, but let's wait and see what happens."

Though born in England, Jones qualifies for Wales through his late grandfather, Arthur, who lived in Ruthin. "I've had to put up with the snipers all my life and I'm sure they'll have another pop," *he said,* "but I got this honour not through favour*itism* . . . but by the vote of a squad of international footballers. How can people argue with that?"

McAllister muddle 50

Enduring Southall 51

Weekend View 51

Stress proves too great for Coppell

By Richard Hobson

STEVE COPPELL was as good as his word. "There will be no miracle from me," he said on being appointed the Manchester City manager. Yesterday, just 33 days later, he stood down after taking medical advice because he could not handle the pressure of pulling such a high-profile club out of decline.

At a hastily-arranged press conference, Coppell, looking gaunt, read out a brief statement and refused to answer questions before leaving quietly for a holiday.

It had taken Francis Lee, the chairman, 42 days to find a replacement in *Coppell after* the departure of Alan Ball in September. George Graham and Dave Bassett had turned *down* the job and others had removed themselves from contention publicly.

"When I was given the job, I was proud, delighted and excited," *Coppell said.* "I am not ashamed to admit that for *some time* I have suffered from the huge pressure that I have put upon myself and since my appointment this has completely overwhelmed me to such an extent that I *cannot* function in the job in the way that I would like to. I am extremely embarrassed by the situation."

He signalled his intention to *leave last Sunday* and declined the offer of a week's break when he and Lee met on Monday. Lee's continuing attempts to bring about a change of mind proved fruitless.

"Some people can cope, some people cannot. It is another sad day for the club," Lee said, probably more embarrassed than Coppell. *Phil* Neal, who resigned as manager of Cardiff City to become Coppell's assistant, takes over on a caretaker basis.

Outwardly, Coppell appeared to have the ideal, *composed temperament* to bring stability to a club that has had 16 managers in the past 25 years, is more than £20 million in debt and the subject of takeover speculation. *However, when he resigned as manager* of Crystal Palace after nine years in 1993, he said that he could not face dismissing players and staff who had helped him before that relegation season from the Premier League.

Howard Wilkinson, the chairman of the League Managers' Association, said that he was not surprised that a leading manager should cite stress as a reason for resigning. Kenny Dalglish left Liver*pool for the same reason* five years ago before re-emerging refreshed to lead Blackburn Rovers to the championship.

Dr Rabi Rana, a stress expert at University College, London, said: "Some people *thrive on stress, but for others* it becomes intolerable. Mr Coppell suggests he has reached that point."

SHORTEST REIGNS

3 days: Bill Lambton (Scunthorpe United) 1959

7 days: Tim Ward (Exeter City) 1953, Kevin Cullis (Swansea City) 1996

13 days: Johnny Cochrane (Reading) 1939

16 days: *Jimmy McIlroy (Bolton Wanderers)* 1970

20 days: Paul Went (Leyton Orient) 1981

28 days: Tommy Docherty (Queens Park Rangers) 1968

33 days: Steve Coppell (Manchester City) 1996

Holyfield's moment of truth

From Srikumar Sen, boxing correspondent, in Las Vegas

BOXING could reach great heights of courage and endeavour or hit new depths of wretchedness when Mike Tyson and Evander Holyfield meet here tonight. It all depends on the performance of *Holyfield,* the bravest of the brave, but, at 34, well past his best.

Holyfield may be able to match Tyson blow for blow for the first three rounds and provide some indication of just how good Tyson really is, but the general view is that he will be demolished inside two rounds. Many experts even fear that he could be bludgeoned unceremoniously to the floor and suffer tragic consequences. Holyfield has been showing signs of ill health for a couple of years.

The challenger brushes aside such gloomy talk and is certain that he will lift the World Boxing Association heavyweight championship. "Tyson knows I'm the only guy who doesn't fear him," Holyfield said. "Most punchers aren't accustomed to taking punches. It affects them a bit more because they're used to banging out everyone else. I'm happy to be given the chance to change the world." Comments which brought a chilling rejoinder from Rory Holloway, Tyson's co-manager, who said: "I hope you are around on Sunday to see how the world has changed."

Certainly, Holyfield will not leave his fight back in the dressing-room, as have most of Tyson's opponents — he is fearless — but it is difficult to make a case for him. He is not the man he was five years ago when the bout was first made but did not go ahead because Tyson went to prison.

The Holyfield of those days might have had a chance. However, while Tyson was in *prison, Holyfield had one* hard contest after another, each one putting years on him: against Bert Cooper, Michael Moorer and Riddick Bowe, twice. After being stopped by Bowe in the third match in 1995, *he failed to impress in* subsequent bouts, looking more and more battle weary. He was particularly ineffectual against Bobby Czyz, a light-heavyweight.

Holyfield's punches bounced off Czyz. "If he could not hurt me, how's he going to hurt Mike Tyson?" Czyz asked.

Tyson, all the while, was resting in prison and, after returning to the ring 15 months ago, has had four easy contests. While they have not tested him, they have certainly *sharpened him up and he* looks better now than he did in his pre-prison days.

Holyfield, on the other hand, has slowed appreciably. He is not so quick about the ring and does not have his old *hand speed. Slow reflexes* against Tyson means certain defeat. Worst of all, he is determined to stand toe-to-toe with Tyson if he has to. That can only lead to a sorry ending for him.

Three of the leading trainers in the United States — Eddie Futch, Teddy Atlas and Emmanuel Steward — give Holyfield very little chance and fear the consequences. According to Futch: "Holyfield's ability to throw off the effects of shots seems to be gone. The danger is in being hurt on his feet. He'll be lucky if he gets hurt and goes right down."

Atlas said: "We've all got an opinion of Holyfield being so special, but when he couldn't handle Czyz more easily, you knew something had diminished him. You don't judge by chronological age, you judge by *tough fights and Evander is* more into his forties if we judge him that way."

Steward, who used to train Holyfield and is now with Lennox Lewis, said: "I think Tyson will win, but you never *know with Evander. He can* pull it out, but I think it will be like Hagler-Hearns." That was a breathtaking three rounds. The world would settle for that.

On the undercard, Henry Akinwande, of Britain, the *World Boxing Organisation* champion, defends against Alexander Zolkin, of Russia. Akinwande, who has greatly improved under Jean Courreges, his French manager, and his American trainer, *Don Turner, should have no* problem, for Zolkin is little more than a plodder.

The Briton won his title by stopping Jeremy Williams last June. The world's heavyweights, including Tyson, will be watching to see if he can stop Zolkin as well.

COVERAGE

TELEVISION: Sky Sports 2: Manchester boxing (coverage starts at 8pm). Sky Box Office (pay-per-view): Las Vegas *boxing (coverage starts at 12am).* Radio: 5 Live: coverage of all fights starts from 9.05pm.

LENNOX McLENDON

Don King, the promoter, presents the protagonists, Tyson, left, and Holyfield

Benn's last chance, page 46

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هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الاجل

Imran Khan enters poll race to fight corruption

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN ISLAMABAD

IMRAN KHAN announced plans yesterday to contest Pakistan's general election due in February — the first formal entry into politics by his fledgeling Movement for Justice party.

"I know my limitations," he said. "As in cricket the person who does well is not the one who is most talented, but the one who knows what he can do and cannot do. The secret is team selection."

The former Pakistani cricket captain, as popular as a film star among the illiterate majority, added that it was time to introduce new faces into politics. He will be seeing a new face himself soon: he will be in London in a day or two to await the birth of his first child, taking him away from tumultuous political events at home.

His wife, Jemima, has spent little time in Pakistan since Mr Khan's cancer hospital in Lahore was partly destroyed in a bomb attack eight months ago. After that she was given a bodyguard and rarely left her Lahore home. Her husband commutes frequently to London, balancing family life with political ambitions.

Mr Khan, 44, looked exhausted after a 24-hour brainstorming session with the executive committee of his party, designed to draw up a programme for contesting the general election. He hopes privately that the polls will be delayed, giving time for an accountability commission to be established by President Leghari to bar corrupt and criminal candidates.

Khan: hopes Bhutto will be banned from politics

That could lead to a ban on both Benazir Bhutto, the dismissed Prime Minister, and Mian Nawaz Sharif, leader of the opposition. Mr Khan would then be the biggest name in the race, giving his underfunded party a chance to capture ground from the two main contenders, both hugely financed at election times by drugs and mafia money.

He said he did not think that being married to a foreigner would harm him in politics. Pakistan had accepted his wife, daughter of Sir James Goldsmith, the industrialist, even though some people had said his marriage was part of a Jewish conspiracy against the country.

His party hopes to field candidates in every constituency, and they will be required to list their assets and income for public scrutiny. He intended to list his own wealth, which was not substantial — "financially things are not that good, believe me, with inflation as it is". His party leadership consists almost entirely of political novices. They are lawyers, engineers, journalists, doctors, consultants and academics — an English-speaking, often foreign-educated, elite. Mr Khan said he had not wanted to enter politics but had done so because Pakistan was heading for disaster. Pakistan's politics had a sordid history of opportunism and betrayal, and corruption deterred expatriate Pakistanis from investing in the country. "The moment they come here, 100 agencies start asking them for money. You cannot even build a road because the money disappears."

There was huge tax evasion. He had paid taxes since he began earning money from cricket in 1976. It was disgraceful that in a poor country the official residences of the Prime Minister and the President should have a fleet of Mercedes cars. He had seen Pakistani landlords living in royal style in London with Rolls-Royces, yet they paid not a rupee in tax.

REUTER

Victims of the cyclone are left with only the bare floor of their hut in Pagadalapeta, Andhra Pradesh

Death toll at least 1,000 in Indian cyclone

FROM COOMI KAPOOR IN DELHI

A THOUSAND people are feared to have died in the cyclone that struck Andhra Pradesh's coastal belt in south-east India on Wednesday night. The official toll was 400, but Chandra Babu Naidu, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, feared it could reach 2,000.

More than 10,000 homes were destroyed, and 200 tent camps have been set up to house at least 100,000 people.

Tons of rice were scattered, and banana and sugar cane plantations turned into swamps. Decaying bodies of livestock raised fears of water contamination and cholera. Indian naval helicopters, assisted by satellite information, dropped food and medicine to half a million people stranded by floods.

Patten faces inquiry over departure of immigration official

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

CHRIS PATTEN, the Governor of Hong Kong, may be summoned before a government committee investigating the deepening scandal over the sudden resignation of the colony's director of immigration.

The departure of Lawrence Leung after 31 years of service gave rise to speculation about whether he had passed on sensitive information to China, including the names of dissidents living in the colony, and permitted excessive numbers of mainland Chinese into Hong Kong.

After unsuccessful efforts to secure information from the Government about why Mr Leung had been allowed to retire on full pension on 24 hours notice instead of the regulation year, the Legislative Council set up the select committee to what investigate the affair.

The first meeting in what promises to be a long series of sessionsbegan yesterday when the committee's legal adviser agreed that witnesses should give testimony under oath and said those who were caught lying faced seven years in prison.

When asked whether Mr Patten could be called before the committee, the adviser said: "There can be no exceptions." Government House afterwards referred to the Letters Patent which stipulate that the Governor attends Legislative Council meetings "at his discretion".

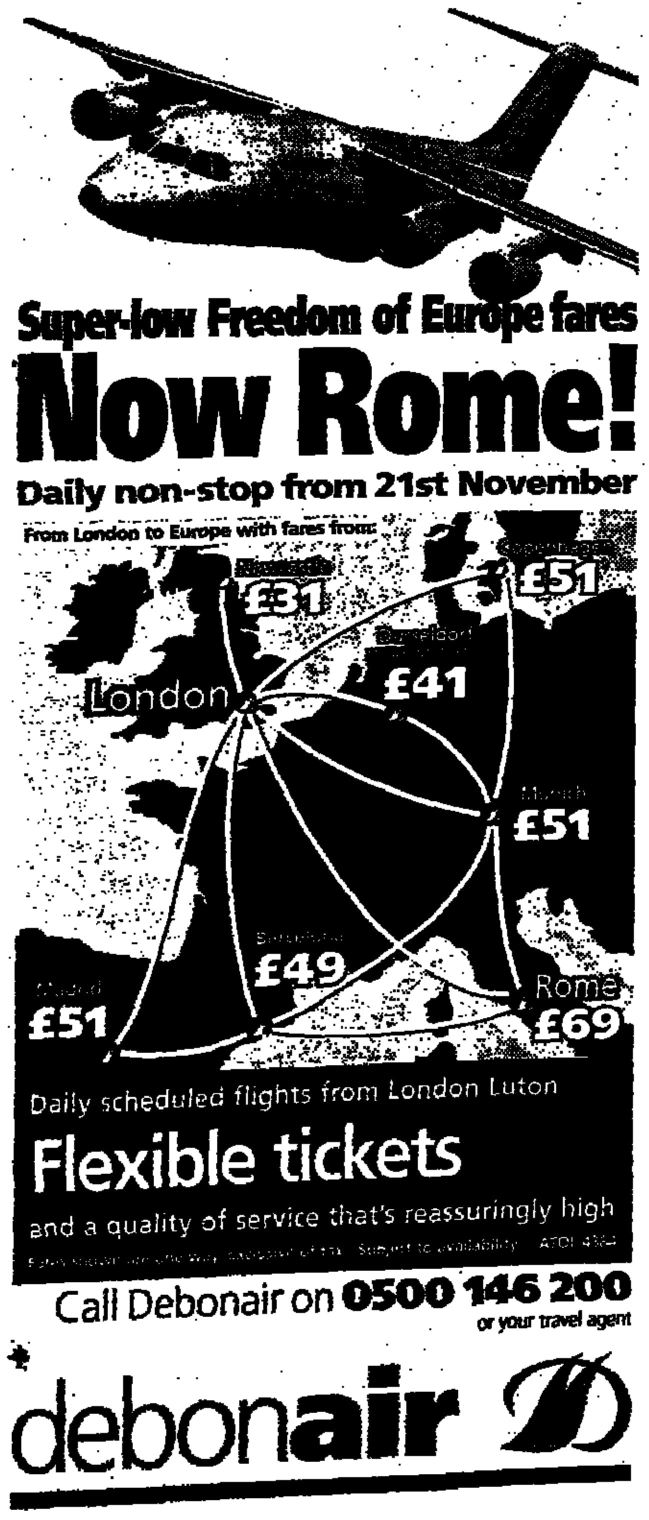
Elisabeth Wong, a committee member and retired senior civil servant, said, "I hope we call the Governor. I doubt if those who testified to us before were acting on their own."

She was referring to Lam Woon-Kwong, the Secretary for the Civil Service, who in past testimony to the council insisted that Mr Leung had been permitted to retire on "personal grounds", but refused to answer when asked if Mr Leung had been forced to leave government service.

Mr Patten, who recently declined to praise Mr Leung's 31 years of service, has said his officials will give no further information if summoned before the committee.

The committee yesterday agreed on a four-hour session for Mr Lam in three weeks time. James To, a member of the council, said that if Mr Lam refused to testify, claiming immunity on public interest grounds, "that would be a constitutional crisis".

Simon Jenkins, page 22



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Issued on behalf of the Minister for Disabled People

Drug cocktails give Aids victims new lease of life

From Giles Whittell in Los Angeles

TALL, fit and imposing, Tom Bianchi takes 16 pills a day and every two months receives a 15-minute injection of an experimental drug. The medication is a nuisance, but life could be far worse. Three years ago he was on the verge of developing Aids.

Mr Bianchi, 51, is among a growing number living with HIV in California who, thanks to potent cocktails of protease inhibitor drugs, have fought off the virus to the extent of having to cope with the challenges of staying alive — from the surprise of prolonged life expectancy to selling unused cemetery plots.

Though not a cure, protease inhibitors can eliminate up to 99.9 per cent of HIV in a patient's body, according to research announced this week in Birmingham. The findings came as no surprise to Dr Garry Corgiat of the Pacific Oaks Medical Group in Beverly Hills, whose practice treats some 30,000 HIV-positive patients, about 85 per cent of whom have managed to reverse the onset of Aids with the drug combinations.

Hopes of a further Aids breakthrough were raised last month when the US Food and Drug Administration authorised full-scale trials on a new drug, Cytolin, made from mice injected with HIV antigens and designed to boost the immune system. Mr Bianchi claims to have been the first person to win a reprieve from Aids when his "viral load" dropped by more than 90 per cent within weeks of his first Cytolin injection. Recoveries "absolutely as dramatic as remissions from cancer" have been seen in patients on protease inhibitors, Dr Corgiat said. It is then that the unexpected traumas of a new lease of life can strike.

Not only must patients make a profound mental adjustment, having prepared themselves for imminent death; many also face loneliness if friends have been lost to the epidemic, and such practical woes as debt, unemployment and life insurance policies cashed in prematurely. As one patient admitted in the *Los Angeles Times*: "I took liberties with my credit cards. I was thinking, 'So what if a dead man has bad credit?'" In southern California alone, at least two major Aids clinics and an Aids hospice have closed for want of critical care patients since the federal approval of three protease inhibitors, saquinavir, ritonavir and indinavir, in the past year.

Meanwhile, psychologists offering counselling to Aids patients have rapidly switched their emphasis from easing death to enhancing life. "Perplexed doesn't even begin to describe" the mental state of those coming to terms with recovery, Jackie Black, a counsellor at the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Centre, said.

"We tend to say, 'Congratulations' ... but we forget we have been training these people for ten years to get ready to die." However, doctors are emphasising that protease inhibitors are a treatment, not a cure.

Anti-viral therapy buys time for patients

Medical Briefing

PROTEASE inhibitors have improved the outlook for HIV-positive patients, but their use should still be thought of as buying time rather than effecting a cure. Three drugs of the protease inhibiting group are in use, with others undergoing trial.

Problems to be solved include the optimum time to start treatment, how long it should last, the type of protease inhibitors to use, and what other drugs should be given. There is a move, however, towards starting this multiple anti-viral treatment early in the disease's course. It seems likely that even when there is a remarkably good response to multiple anti-viral treatment given late in the course of HIV, that the therapy will have induced remission rather than eradication.

It must also be supposed that patients will remain infectious and have to continue the usual precautions. Even if the viral load in the blood is low, it may be higher in the semen. When use is at a late stage of the disease the patient's best hope for achieving long-term remission is that other new drugs will be introduced before their condition has slipped beyond the control of the existing regime.

The most enthusiastic reports about protease inhibitors have followed their use, as part of multi-drug treatment, when the therapy has started at ser-conversion — the minor illness that affects patients about six weeks after infection. Protease inhibitors block the virus's release, stopping it spreading.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

TERRY RENNA/AP

Nasa's *Mars Global Surveyor* is launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, for a ten-month journey to study the red planet's atmosphere and surface

Shell sued over oil protester hangings

By Peter Foster

THE family of Ken Saro-Wiwa, who was executed by the Nigerian Government a year ago, has launched a legal action against the giant Shell oil company.

The lawsuit, filed in New York against Royal Dutch Petroleum and Shell Transport and Trading plc, alleges the executions by the Nigerian junta were carried out with the "knowledge, consent and/or support" of the company.

The action comes two days before the first anniversary of Saro-Wiwa's execution which is to be marked by a series of protests and vigils by human rights activists around the world. His trial was condemned as a sham by Britain, South Africa and America.

On Thursday, Shell announced it was to include specific reference to human rights in its general statement of business principles. The move came after a series of meetings between the company and pressure groups including Amnesty International and Pax Christi, the church pacifist group.

Shell was widely criticised at the time of Saro-Wiwa's death for its reluctance to intervene on his behalf. Saro-Wiwa, the leader of the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (Mosop), campaigned vociferously for a greater share of oil revenues and a clean-up of oil spills across Ogoniland. He was accused of inciting a mob to murder four Ogoni leaders who opposed his campaign.

The action has been brought jointly by the families of Ken Saro-Wiwa and John Kpuinen, deputy president of Mosop's youth wing, who was also executed a year ago.

The case was filed by the Centre for Constitutional Rights under the Alien Tort Claims Act that provides federal jurisdiction for alleged civil wrongs committed by foreigners who break the law of nations or a US treaty. The claims were also brought under the Torture Victim Protection Act that provides for federal jurisdiction for acts of torture and extrajudicial "execution".

The families allege Saro-Wiwa and Kpuinen were killed for murders they did not commit and because of their challenges to the military dictatorship of General Sani Abacha. They also contend the men were tried before a special tribunal that violated international standards of due process.

Shell yesterday denied that it had played any role in the Ogoni hangings. "Those [allegations] have been refuted previously and they are further refuted now," a spokesman for the company said.

Netanyahu: personal pledge to West Bank

Hebron settlers promised expansion

From Christopher Walker in Jerusalem

ISRAEL'S Prime Minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, has promised Jewish settlers that he would expand settlements in the occupied West Bank to compensate for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Hebron, still the subject of negotiations with the Palestinians.

According to Israel television, the pledge was made during a private meeting between the Prime Minister and leaders of the 144,000 settlers. "When the army vehicles pull out of Hebron, the mobile homes will pull into the settlements," the television reported. About 450 militant Jews live in the centre of Hebron among 120,000 hostile Palestinians. The potential for violence in the city holy to both Muslims and Jews has been growing. Yesterday Yitzhak Mordechai, the Defence Minister, reported to the Cabinet that the atmosphere there was "very tense".

Political sources said that Mr Netanyahu's new offer was an attempt to defuse the chance of an explosion of Israeli-Arab violence. Talks on the Hebron pull-out are expected to resume in earnest when Dennis Ross, the American special envoy, returns to the region next week.

Yediot Ahronot, the Tel Aviv daily, quoted Mr Netayahu as telling the settlers: "I will personally see to it that all the delays in your expansion plans (are remedied) and I will make sure that the approved decisions are implemented on the ground."

The Palestinians consider settlement construction one of the greatest threats to the already ailing peace process and the United States calls it an "obstacle to peace".

Last night the left-wing Israeli pressure group, Peace Now, said: "The Israeli public should note that hundreds of millions of shekels from the Government's budget are about to be invested in new apartments, the expansion of settlements, in caravans and outrageous allocations to 3 per cent of the population."

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Concern grows for Sinatra

Los Angeles: Fears for the health of Frank Sinatra, 80, mounted yesterday amid reports that he has been treated in hospital here for pneumonia and heart failure (Giles Whittell writes).

More than a week after being admitted to the Cedars Sinai Medical Centre with what aides described as a pinched nerve, the singer was still being treated there in a room that resembled an intensive care unit, according to one report. At Mr Sinatra's request, no official statements have been issued about his condition since last weekend.

US Navy 'did not fire at Flight 800'

New York: FBI and crash officials dismissed a claim by Pierre Salinger, the veteran journalist, that the US Navy was responsible for July's TWA Flight 800 disaster. Mr Salinger said he had a document that showed that a US Navy missile test accidentally brought down the Boeing 747.

"Friendly fire" theories about the crash, which killed 230 people, have circulated for several weeks on the Internet.

Holocaust bank details due

Geneva: Switzerland's banking ombudsman will on Tuesday give the first results of attempts to track down the unclaimed accounts of Holocaust victims, but few have been traced so far (Peter Capella writes). There are rumours that the World Jewish Congress and Swiss banks have struck a compensation deal.

Magazine, page 31

Convict saved from execution

Richmond, Virginia: A convict's death sentence for the killing of a fellow inmate was commuted three hours before he was due to die by lethal injection after four jurors said they doubted their verdict and the victim's mother pleaded for mercy. George Allen, the state Governor, reduced Joseph Payne's sentence to life without parole. *(AP)*

Lions devour lone drinker

Middelburg: A 35-year-old man was eaten by a group of five lions on a game farm near this South African town when he wandered into the bush after a bout of drinking, police said. Elphas Siwela was visiting friends on a game farm near Kruger Park. The lions were later tracked down and shot dead. *(AFP)*

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London and Paris urge help for refugees as marauding Hutu thugs hunt down children

Major may send British troops on aid mission

FROM JILL SHERMAN IN BORDEAUX

THE Prime Minister last night held out the prospect of sending British troops to help to get humanitarian aid to more than a million refugees stranded in eastern Zaire.

While John Major drew back from supporting the specific military plan put forward by the French he made clear that Britain would be prepared to send in British armed forces to support the humanitarian effort if the African countries involved wished. Other options such as logistical and financial support are also under consideration but Mr Major played down any suggestion of sending British troops into combat.

Speaking at a press conference after the Bordeaux Anglo-French summit Mr Major emphasised both France and Britain wanted a speedy solution to help the refugees. But he pointed out action could be decided only with the agreement of the Organisation of African Unity and the United Nations. He added that African countries might consider European troops were inappropriate, preferring logistical or financial help.

Mr Major's comments, supported by Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, seemed to represent a significant shift in the British position. On Thursday night officials appeared to play down the prospect of military help. Yesterday Mr Major said it was "premature" to decide now, but he did not rule out the "option of assisting in a military operation".

Mr Rifkind, at the same summit, also signalled that Britain could offer more support than aid and food. "The question arises how you get the aid and food to the people who need it and whether that will require some military dimension. We certainly don't rule that out. But there is urgent work going on at the moment, a lot of analysis of what we know is happening on the ground, so the question is how do you get the food and the aid to the people who desperately need it and does that require a military intervention, who could best provide that if it is required, and what kind of contribution can a country like the United Kingdom, France or the United States make to that international effort?"

Asked whether British forces were overcommitted Mr Rifkind said: "There are problems, practical problems of that kind. But we do have professional Armed Forces that can often assist."

France is pushing for the creation of a 5,000-strong UN-sponsored force and has said that up to 1,000 troops would be available provided other countries, notably the United States, matched its commitment. So far Washington has offered logistical support.

Speaking after the summit Mr Major said: "There is no difference between France and Britain about the importance of securing international help for Zaire. On the question of troops we need to know what the host government thinks and the neighbouring countries think, whether they want European troops or African troops." British officials later confirmed that British troops could be sent in to support the humanitarian effort. A statement produced by Mr Major and President Chirac earlier emphasised humanitarian rather than military aspects of any joint action.

☐ New York: Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, called yesterday for the urgent despatch of a multinational force, but emphasised that the goal should be repatriation of refugees to Rwanda and Burundi (James Bone writes). The Security Council held closed-door consultations yesterday to hammer out the precise mandate of a possible intervention force, and a formal vote to authorise its deployment could take place this weekend.

Letters, page 23

Spanish priests are murdered at camp

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

THREE Spanish Marist priests were murdered yesterday at a refugee camp six miles from Bukavu, in eastern Zaire. Rescue workers who found their hacked and shot bodies could not say whether Zairean troops or Tutsi rebels were responsible.

The three were identified by the Spanish Foreign Ministry as Julio Rodriguez Jorge, 40, Servando Mayor Garcia, 44, and Miguel Ángel Isla Lucio, 53. The latter had arrived in Zaire just 15 days ago. A fourth Marist priest, Fernando de la Fuente, is believed to have escaped but his whereabouts are not yet known. They had appealed for protection by radio four days ago.

The Society of Mary to which the dead priests belonged was founded in Lyons in 1824 by the Ven Jean Claude Marie Colin. Educational and missionary work form the mainstay of its activities, and the order has been present in Zaire for several decades.

Some 50 Spanish priests, many Jesuits and Carmelites, still remain in Zaire, most of them concentrated in the war-torn eastern regions. A Carmelite priest, Jesús Gutiérrez Portero, was kidnapped a week ago by Tutsi rebels in Bukavu. His fate is unknown. Yesterday, Spain's Ambassador in Kinshasa appealed to Spanish priests to leave.

DAVID GUTTENFELDER/AP PHOTO

A Zairean tries to keep back the crowds who came in search of food yesterday at the United Nations warehouse in Goma, eastern Zaire

Villages raided as food shortage grows

Sam Kiley reports from Keshero, near Goma, on the desperate search for food by stranded civilians

RWANDAN Hutu refugee militia yesterday continued their raids on Zairean villages in search of food and children to kidnap, sparking a battle with east Zaire's rebels on the outskirts of Goma as the town endured its seventh day of acute food shortages.

The *Interahamwe* (those who kill together) struck Keshero, a hamlet which forms the front line between the Rwandan Hutus in their camp of 500,000 people and the rebels based in Goma, two hours after villagers told *The Times* of how their children had been abducted to serve as human shields.

Floribert Makongo, the director of a nearby orphanage, spent a night recently cowering inside a black hut made of the local volcanic stone as the *Interahamwe* attacked.

"They came again at around five last night looking for food and children to take away. Luckily the rebels were quickly here. We don't know if they took any hostages because the fighting was very heavy, all night long there was shooting and bombs," he said as he joined a steady stream of Hutu villagers going into Goma in search of food.

Their mission will have been in vain. Apart from leaves picked off cassava plants and the odd goat, Goma's larder is empty.

Thousands of people gathered outside a Care International warehouse which had had some stocks of biscuits yesterday morning. Hungry locals, their city cut off by fighting to the north and west and its border closed to Rwanda in the east, charged at rebel soldiers guarding the warehouse. Other civilians tried to beat them back with sticks as two lorries left the complex.

"We are starving, we have nothing, everything was taken when the *Interahamwe* retreated. Why does the world want us to starve," yelled one man in English.

The lorries carried serum, the last of the city's medical supplies, to Goma hospital, which had received the final stocks of food that morning.

At the Cased orphanage in a poor Goma suburb a boy, seven, boiled some beans scavenged from the town by his 20 fellow orphans; the meal was a small plate for each youngster, and their last for the time being. Some of the children had been trapped in Sake, the other side of Mugunga from Goma, and had managed to escape their *Interahamwe* captors and sneaked through minefields to the town.

Kaneto, 12, said he had been travelling on foot with a family following in a car. "There was a huge explosion and they all died or were injured," he said.

Antoine Katsuva, a worker at the orphanage, said the dormitories of black brick and wooden slats had the capacity to house 100 children. "All we lack is food. We have nothing to give the children who spend their day looking for food in the town."

A rumour that a lorry was distributing World Food Programme aid sent the children scampering into the street with cries of "biscuit, biscuit". They returned moments later, bent like old men. The lorry had been handing out plastic sheeting to people whose houses had been damaged.

Dr Jean Nicolas Kasereka Busara, the regional medical inspector, said: "The crisis which is destabilising the town of Goma and the surrounding areas cannot leave anyone indifferent. The whole international community is called to immediate action at the highest level before it is too late," he said.

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CHANGING TIMES

OPEN LETTER

Dead refugees cannot be saved

Dear Prime Minister,

Over one million refugees and local people face death in war-torn eastern Zaire, a mere ten miles from aid supplies. The first to die are children and the elderly. Meanwhile, the European Union vacillates and shows shameful disunity in the face of massive loss of human life. We are pleading for the British government to show the moral strength and leadership necessary to mobilise an international intervention on the ground.

Time is running out. Despite the announcement of a cease-fire, aid organisations are still actively prevented from reaching the people in need. The refugees need safe areas, where security and aid can be provided, and from where they can return home safely and in dignity. Only a neutral force can successfully disarm the former Rwandan army and the Interahamwe militia and help bring those responsible for the 1994 genocide to justice.

Unless security is restored on the ground in a matter of days, the refugee question of Central Africa will have found its final solution. There simply will not be any refugees left alive.

Yours sincerely,

David Bryer
Director
Oxfam UK and Ireland

Anne-Marie Huby
Executive Director
Médecins Sans Frontières UK

OXFAM UNITED KINGDOM AND IRELAND

MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES

Women soldiers accuse instructors of sexual attacks

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

AT LEAST 30 young female recruits were allegedly raped, sodomised and sexually harassed by male officers while undergoing preliminary drill and fitness training at a US Army base.

Three men — a captain and two drill sergeants — face court martial for the alleged assaults at the Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, and more prosecutions were said to be likely. Senior members of the US Army yesterday deplored the suspected abuse of officer trust.

The Pentagon sought to defuse a sex scandal of voluminous proportions, one which presents as much of a threat to the image of American armed forces as the notorious Tailhook naval affair of 1991 when women were badly abused by male officers at a Las Vegas convention.

An army investigation has questioned 500 women who attended the Aberdeen base in the past two years. The alleged *victims said that they were* touched up, raped and pestered by a number of commissioned and non-commissioned *officers while they were in the* first few weeks at the US Army Ordnance Centre and School.

The women were as young *as 18 and were learning the* rudiments and rigours of military discipline. However, in addition to the demands of *square-bashing* and vehicle maintenance, they allegedly had to fight off relentless physical approaches from *their instructors.*

Senior officers were alerted to the alleged abuses earlier this autumn, when a discreet *investigation began. Women,* whose presence in some areas of the US military has recently been hotly debated, said that *they had been reluctant to* come forward for fear of harming their new careers in the army.

All three men brought to court martial are married and instructed the recruits in traditional physical military routines. Captain Derrick Robertson was charged, among other things, with rape, conduct unbecoming an officer and adultery. Staff Sergeant Delmar Simpson was charged with rape, forcible sodomy and having an improper relationship with a recruit. Both men, if found guilty of rape, face life in prison.

Staff Sergeant Nathanael Beach was charged with obstruction of justice, disobeying an officer and having an *improper relationship with a* recruit. Two other training officers were accused of writing love letters to young *female soldiers.*

Major-General Robert Shadley, the ordnance school's commander, said that army *investigators would examine* whether there had been any "systematic problems" behind the alleged abuses. "This is the *worst thing I have ever come* across. We have already conducted 550 interviews and I would expect additional charges to be coming," he said.

Boorda: killed himself after Tailhook incident

The Pentagon deployed an impressive array of firepower to convey its shock and distaste. General Dennis Reimer said that the case was "something that offends us all". As a former basic training officer himself he was "particularly worried by the abuse of power". General William Hartzog, commander of *the US Army* Training and Doctrine Command, said: "America deserves better than this, our *soldiers deserve better than* this."

The image of US armed forces has still not recovered *from the Tailhook incident,* when crude initiation rites and rampant sexual harassment took place under the noses of *senior officers. The scandal* led to the military introducing "zero tolerance" rules on sexual impropriety and alcohol abuse, but *the US Navy* was seen to be slow in its response to the affair.

Congress was not impressed, and the embarrassment was said to have contributed to the depression of the late Admiral J. "Mike" Boorda, *the naval chief who* committed suicide last year.

Captain Robertson was temporarily relieved of his duties as a company commander and Sergeant Simpson was placed in a military jail at Quantico, Virginia. Captain Robertson, who is going through a divorce, admitted that he had had an affair with a woman but said that it was "consensual", albeit against the base's rules. He had gone ahead with the "improper" affair because "perhaps I was lonelier than I had realised".

RON EDMONDS/AP

Patty Murray has been a vocal Senate critic of sexual harassmentin America

Old man of Senate dismisses 'fondle in lift' as a courtesy

FROM IAN BRODIE
IN WASHINGTON

THE irrepressible Strom *Thurmond, whose re-election* to the US Senate this week puts him on course to serve there until he reaches 100, *fended off an accusation yes*terday that he fondled a woman senator in a lift.

Mr Thurmond, 94 next *month, said his gentlemanly* Southern "courtesy" in taking her arm had been misunderstood. His alleged victim was *Patty Murray,* 46, a self-described "mom in tennis shoes" and an outspoken foe of sexual harassment.

The episode occurred three years ago, according to a forthcoming book about women on Capitol Hill by *Clara Bingham, a former Newsweek* reporter. By this account, the two senators entered the lift together — *there was an operator — and* Mr Thurmond was said to have put his arm around Mrs Murray while he tried to *grope her breast and asked in his Southern* drawl: "Are you married, little lady?"

Thurmond: believes in helping hand to women

Mrs Murray promptly told another senator, Barbara *Boxer, who suggested she* make a public announcement. But Mrs Murray decided the incident did not amount to *sexual harassment and* instead dealt with it privately. Her aides complained to Mr Thurmond's officials. He *promptly sought her out* and hoped she had not misconstrued his taking her arm.

In a statement yesterday he said: "Throughout my life, I *have made an effort to show* gentlemanly courtesies towards women. That includes assisting them through doors, into vehicles and, yes, on to elevators." Mr Thurmond's statement prompted knowing smiles in Washington, where his age has not curbed an appreciation of attractive, younger women. His late first wife was 23 years his junior. His second wife, from whom he is separated, was a 22-year-old former Miss South Carolina when he married her at 66. The first *of his* four children was born when he was 69.

As for asking whether the "little lady" was married, that *was vintage Thurmond, said* his spokesman, Chris Cimko. "You sure are pretty, are you married, you have children?" Mr Cimko *said. "This was* nothing more than a getting-to-know-you exercise when Mrs Murray was a relatively *new senator.*"

First Lady 'won government job' for fundraiser

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

HILLARY CLINTON was at the centre of a tightening net of scandal at the White House *last night even* as she planned to launch a crusade of self-redemption. A report in Washington claimed America's *First Lady had orchestrated* an appointment at the Commerce Department for John Huang, the controversial figure subsequently forced *to* resign his post as a senior Democratic fundraiser.

Mr Huang's role at the government *department remains* shrouded in mystery amid continuing Republican allegations that the former executive *of the Indonesian Lippo* Group was part of a concerted effort to influence trade policy in return for dubious contribu*tions from Asia to the Clinton* campaign.

The White House said there was "no indication" that Mrs *Clinton had any hand in the* appointment of Mr Huang as deputy assistant secretary for international economic policy in 1994, but a department aide told *The Washington Times* that the banker was not hired by Ron Brown, the Commerce Secretary who died in a plane crash near the Croatian city of Dubrovnik in April.

"He was not Ron Brown's guy, and his presence caused intense conflict," said the source. "Huang was carrying water for the White House."

Judicial Watch, a public interest group involved in a civil suit against the Commerce Department, is claiming Mr Huang used his government role to help the multinational conglomerate in Jakarta to win billion-dollar *deals in China* and organise trade trips that were no more than a cover for extracting campaign contributions from corporate executives.

Mrs Clinton, contrary to her sworn testimony, is already suspected of taking a prominent role in the firing of staff from the White House Travel Office in 1993 and her pres*ence also overshadows* "Filegate", the illegal gathering of FBI background documents on hundreds of former *Republican* employees at the White House.

In notes from an FBI interview, Bernard Nussbaum, the *then* White House counsel, is quoted as saying that Mrs Clinton was reponsible for the hiring of Craig Livingstone, a former restaurant bouncer who became the Clintons' chief of security in charge of background checks.

Now that her husband's last campaign is successfully over, close aides to Mrs Clinton said she was deciding whether to launch a final drive to redeem her reputation. But her beatification is certain to be frustrated by opponents who see her as the President's Achilles' heel. A legion of lawyers already view her indictment by Kenneth Starr, the independent prosecutor on Whitewater, as inevitable.

The Democrats, meanwhile, have launched a campaign to revile Mr Starr in an effort to dissuade the prosecutor from taking his case to a grand jury. Mrs Clinton's second term and her place in history will probably depend on whether he has the evidence and the nerve to do so.

White House picks new Chief of Staff

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT CLINTON has appointed Erskine Bowles, a North Carolina investment banker, as his Chief of Staff, White House officials said.

The rapid move to replace Leon Panetta, who wants to return to California, is a sign that Mr Clinton has learnt that, without a first-rate Chief of Staff, other appointments will be delayed and the White House will be accident-prone.

Mr Panetta is widely credited with bringing *order and* political astuteness to the chaos of the early months of the Clinton Administration, *which contributed to the Democrats'* resounding defeat in the 1994 mid-term elections.

Much of Mr Clinton's ener*gy since his re-election on* Tuesday has been devoted to persuading Mr Bowles to accept the post. "The President *trusts Erskine with his life,*" party strategists are reported as saying. Mr Clinton turned to Mr Bowles in August to *handle the revelations* that Dick Morris, his political adviser, had confided White House gossip to a prostitute.

The move is a snub to Harold Ickes, the Deputy Chief of Staff, who is closely associated with the controversial liberal policies of the first two years of the Clinton presidency. It signals that Mr Clinton intends, as he *maintained* on the campaign trail, to pursue the moderate pragmatism of the past two years.

Mr Bowles, like Mr Clinton, is a progressive Southerner of the baby-boom generation. He advised Mr Clinton on his *1992 election campaign* and left the bank he helped to found to become Deputy Chief of Staff. Even after Mr Bowles *stepped down in January* Mr Clinton continued to consult him, and they are regular golfing partners.

Robert Reich, the labour secretary in Mr Clinton's Cabinet, also announced his resignation yesterday to spend mroe time with his family.

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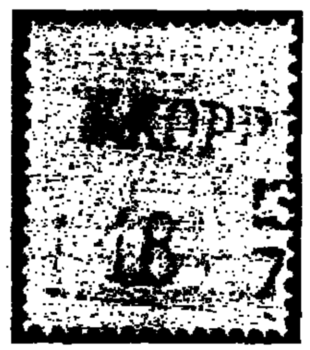
Distillery catches fire

New York: Two million gallons of bourbon went up in *flames when fire destroyed six* whisky warehouses in Kentucky (Quentin Letts writes). A "river of burning liquor" and *flames "several hundred feet* tall" were described by one of the 100 firemen who yesterday fought to extinquish the blaze *after 24 hours.*

The cause of the fire at the Heaven Hill Distillery, Bardstown, home of the Evan Williams and Elijah Craig *brands, was not known.* Firefighters were hindered by brisk winds and by the strong whiff of burning alcohol — the *conflagration was comparable* to a vast flaming Christmas pudding. Several people were treated for smoke inhalation *and officials told local farmers* that bourbon had leaked into nearby streams.

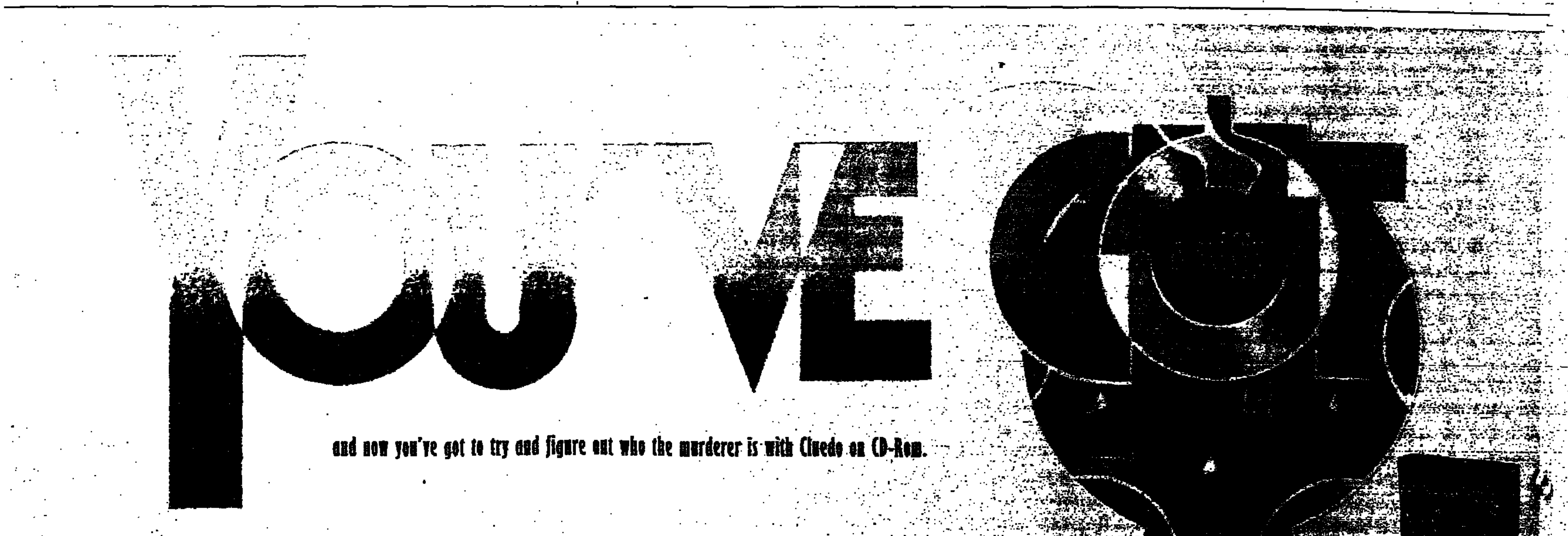

The Treskilling Yellow

Record £1.5m for stamp

Geneva: A rare and flawed Swedish postage stamp was yesterday sold at auction in Zurich for a world record of nearly £1.5 million in barely four minutes (Peter Capella writes).

The Treskilling Yellow was bought by a Swedish dealer for an unidentified client for £500,000 more than it fetched six years ago. Bidding started at £450,000 and reached a final price of £1.25 million. Another £187,000 was added in commission charges.

The yellow colour is regarded as a printing error. The Treskilling, now the world's most valuable single stamp, was worth three Swedish schillings when it was printed in 1855. It was discovered in 1885 by a Swedish schoolboy at his grandmother's house. He sold it for 7 kronor.



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Tourism threatens priceless record of ancient treasures

From Ben Macintyre in Paris

TWENTY-FIVE of the world's top art historians have sent a petition to President Chirac warning him that any attempt to move the 2,000 mouldings of ancient Greek and Roman monuments stored at Versailles would cause irreparable damage to the priceless collection.

The array of plaster mouldings housed in the stables at the Palace of Versailles includes replicas of the vast columns from the Parthenon in Athens and the Castor and Pollux Temple in Rome, as well as hundreds of smaller sculptures. Taken together, they are considered to make up the greatest collection of its kind.

The mouldings were assembled over three centuries by French rulers determined to make Paris the "New Rome" by bringing together copies of classical sculpture and architecture to inspire their artists and builders.

French government plans to disperse the collection in order to turn the huge "Small Stables" at Versailles into a reception area for tourists have prompted strenuous protests from art experts, who say the mouldings form a unique but intensely fragile record of classical sculpture and architecture. The mouldings are often in much better condition that the originals, most of which have suffered more than 200 years of pollution and weathering since the casts were made.

In their petition, presented at the Elysée Palace on Thursday, the art experts pointed out that "the most beautiful pieces, such as the large architectural mouldings, are almost impossible to transport because of their extreme fragility and run the greatest risk of being irremediably damaged if they are moved".

The mouldings were originally housed in the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. However, during the upheavals of May 1968, the more radical students saw the collection as a symbol of "reactionary teaching" and set about smashing the mouldings with hammers. The collection was hurriedly taken to Versailles, but many pieces were further damaged in the move.

Versailles, like the Louvre in Paris, is undergoing renovation and restructuring to accommodate more visitors, and the authorities reportedly want the mouldings to make way for a tourist reception area along the lines of the controversial pyramid at the Louvre. "They are going to clear out the sculptures and Disneyfy the Versailles stables, with T-shirts and keyrings on sale," one French art expert complained.

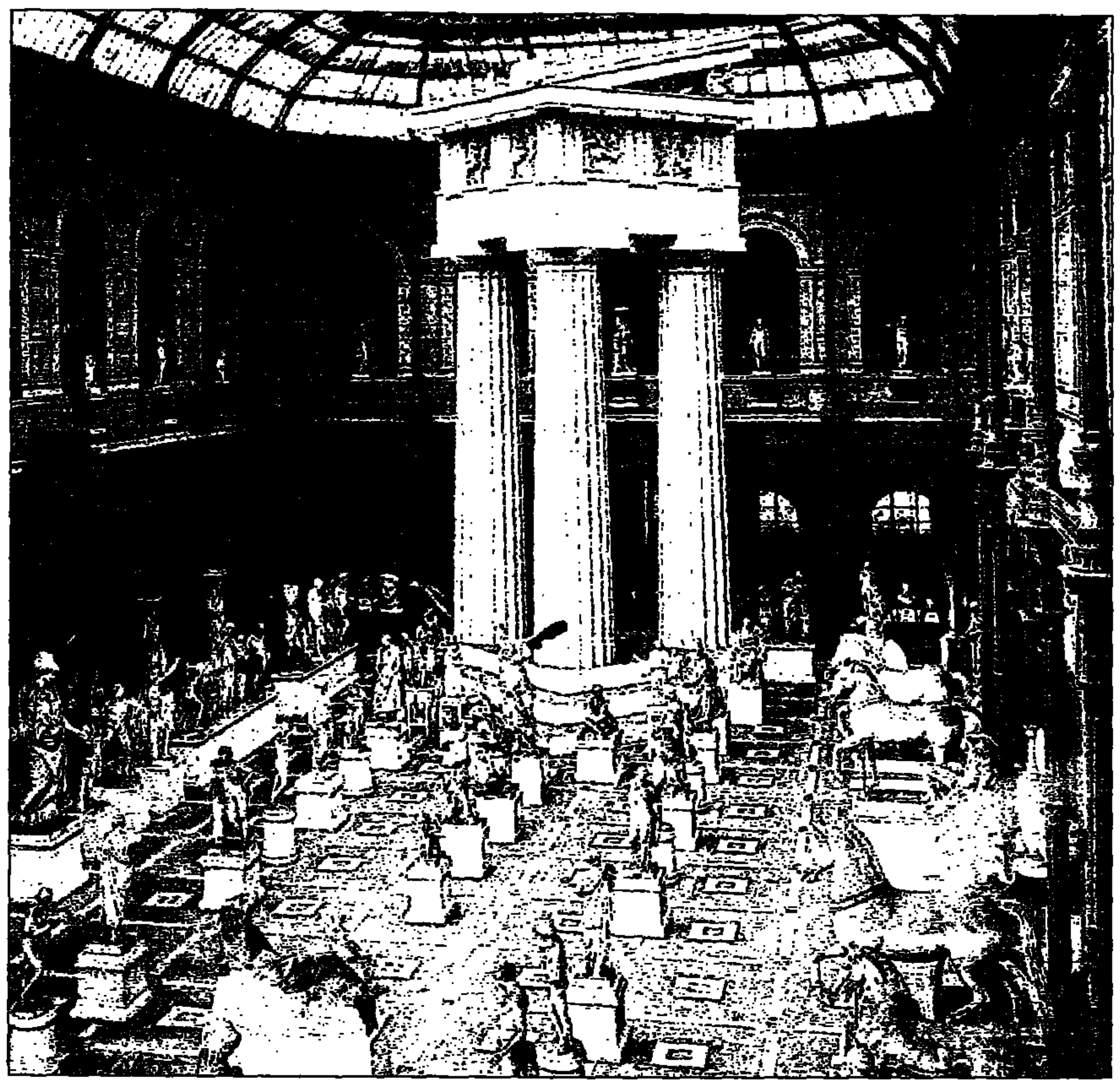
Louis XIV: told students to study mouldings

"These sculptures have significance for art students, but here they have become a bit like a hair in the soup," François de Mazière, the mayoral aide in charge of culture at Versailles, told *Le Figaro*. He added that the stable "would be a very good place to put on shows".

The petitioners, from France, Britain, Germany, Italy, Scandinavia and the United States, insist, however, that "this cultural heritage is part of the world's patrimony and a credit to Versailles and France: it must be preserved where it is, properly appreciated and made accessible to more people".

One possibility is to divide the collection and display the various mouldings in Paris buildings whose architecture was inspired by classical forms. Opponents say, however, that the collection should remain intact and to break it up would quite literally do just that to many of the pieces.

The Versailles collection is frequented largely by scholars and cultural groups and the signatories say the Small Stable should be turned into a public museum of Greek and Roman mouldings. The government Office of Museums in Paris insists that no decision has yet been made on the future of the collection, but it admits that a change of venue is under discussion.



Some of the casts of classical sculpture at the Ecole des Beaux Arts before they were moved out to Versailles

"Moving the mouldings would be very dangerous. It is a wrong and misguided policy," Francis Haskell, Emeritus Professor of Art History at Oxford University and one of the signatories of the petition, said yesterday.

Francis I was among the earliest importers of classical forms, and the 16th-century French King ordered casts to be made of sculptures in Italy and Greece, which were used as models during the building of his palace at Fontainebleau.

"The French have led the field in collecting casts of sculptures and architecture," Ian Jenkins, Assistant Keeper at the British Museum's department of Greek and Roman antiquities, said yesterday.

Louis XIV gave explicit instructions that students at the Académie de France in Rome should make plaster casts to be studied in France, but France's craze for classical replicas reached its height in the 19th century. Before the Earl of Elgin began making mouldings of ornamental sculpture in Athens in 1801, Le Comte de Choiseul-Gouffier, the French diplomat and explorer, had already brought back many casts to France. Under Napoleon, a cast manufacturing unit was set up at the Louvre to churn out what Dr Jenkins called "paradigms of classical antiquity" for a mass market.

The recent revival in classicism makes a museum of the ancient Greek and Roman mouldings still more timely, according to the petitioners.

Leading article, page 23

Mafia stole Caravaggio masterpiece for Andreotti, Palermo court told

From Richard Owen in Rome

A MASTERPIECE by Caravaggio, missing for over a quarter of a century, was stolen by the Mafia and is being used as collateral in gangland deals between Mafia families in Sicily and Calabria, according to police sources.

Police yesterday appealed to the thieves to return Caravaggio's *Nativity*. It was painted in 1609 when the artist, known for his lowlife proclivities as well as his genius, was on the run on murder charges after a brawl in Rome. It was one of his last paintings before his death the following year in Malta. Bernard Berenson, the critic, describes it as "a marvellous work".

The *Nativity* hung in the 16th-century Oratory of San Lorenzo in Palermo until October 1969, when it was stolen. News of its fate emerged this week at a hearing during the trial in Palermo of Giulio Andreotti, the former Christian Democrat Prime Minister, on charges of links with the Mafia during his decades in government.

A Mafia *pentito*, or supergrass, Marino Mannoia, admitted during testimony that he was one of the Mafia team that stole the painting.

Other *pentiti* have told police the *Nativity* is passed from hand to hand by Mafia gangsters as a token of good faith to seal agreements on turf wars and contract killings. Mannoia said the painting had been damaged during the robbery, when he and his accomplices cut the 8ft by 6ft painting from its frame with a razor blade.

He maintained that the painting had been stolen as a gift for an "illustrious figure" who was "crazy about the masterpiece" and who had "begun to cry when he saw the painting had crumbled when it was rolled up". Under questioning, he said the "illustrious figure" was Signor Andreotti.

The former Prime Minister denied this vehemently. "I dont think I've gone crazy about anything, certainly not a picture," he added.

Colonel Roberto Conforti, head of the Carabinieri anti-art theft squad, appealed to Mannoia's accomplices to return the painting "to the Italian nation", saying that under the statute of limitations charges would not be pressed because the crime had been committed more than 20 years ago.

Art theft is big business in Italy, with thousands of art works disappearing onto the black market every year.

Tax fight hits Kohl hopes on currency

From Peter Bild in Bonn

THE savage squeeze on welfare spending imposed on Germany's neighbours to meet Bonn's tough interpretation of financial criteria for economic and monetary union is starting to boomerang.

In a test of his domestic leadership, Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, has been forced to call a late-night meeting tomorrow of his coalition's party leaders to slash DM3 billion (£ 1.25 billion) from spending plans for next year.

Germany's 10 per cent unemployment rate, which looks set to rise next year even if the economy recovers, has turned the calculations of Theo Waigel, the embattled Finance Minister, upside down. Estimates published yesterday project a further DM10 billion shortfall in revenues compared with those made only six months ago.

At the same time, Herr Kohl has been pressured by the Free Democrats, his liberal junior partners in his coalition, to rule out any tax hikes for the rest of this legislative period. The Free Democrats, pinning their hope of 1998 electoral survival on an image as Bonn's only tax-cutting party, is seeking a commitment to a cut of two percentage points in the solidarity tax surcharge, levied to finance east German reconstruction.

Herr Waigel says the DM3 billion cuts that he is seeking will be enough to keep the total public sector deficit down to the Maastricht ceiling of 3 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP). "Ins" and "outs" of monetary union will be settled on the basis of 1997 figures.

Analysts believe Herr Waigel is again being economical with the budget truth. Germany's major economic research institutes estimate next year's deficit will be about DM15 billion over the target. Opposition finance experts are demanding that Herr Waigel explain how he will close a DM24 billion hole in this year's budget. Citing his own figures, they project Herr Waigel's deficit this year at DM80 billion, pushing Germany's net borrowing requirement to more than 4 per cent of GDP.

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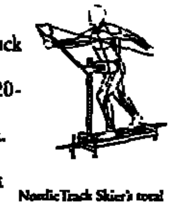

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Feisty Mayoress accepts Olympic challenge and pushes her city into serious contention

Contest for Games heats up

SEVILLE FILE

by TUNKU VARADARAJAN

SEVILLE — haughty, pretty and prodigal — is the current "shock" favourite among a host of heavyweight competitors wrestling to be the venue for the Olympic Games in 2004. In spite of its unshakeable reputation for languor and long siestas, the city has surged ahead of such rivals as Athens, Buenos Aires, Cape Town, Istanbul, Lille, Rio de Janeiro, Rome, Stockholm and St Petersburg.

Many Spaniards are, of course, unsure of the wisdom of Seville's bid. After all, the city lost millions of pounds in 1992 when it played host to the Universal Exposition, or "Expo", through corruption, kick-backs and incompetence. The extent of that loss — nearly £200 million — was discovered only recently by inspectors from the national audit office. With breathtaking audacity, the previous Socialist Government had announced that the Expo had "officially" made £90 million.

Inevitably, some brutal *questions* are being raised outside Seville: can Andalusia be trusted to run a global event like the Olympics? Has it, quite simply, got the discipline required? Can the "Flamenco spirit" coexist with the Olympic spirit? Will money disappear, once more, into the pockets of politicians and building contractors?

These questions, however, do not daunt Soledad Becerril Bustamante, the city's feisty *alcaldesa*, or Mayoress. Bossy, elegant and articulate, she is believed to have "handbagged" the members of the International Olympic Committee so successfully on their recent visit to Seville that an Olympic bid which was once widely believed to be over-optimistic is now seen by experts as "one of the top three".

Señora Becerril once served as Minister for Culture in the short-lived Calvo-Sotelo Government of 1981-82, making her the first female member of a Spanish Cabinet since the days of the republic. Now a pillar of the conservative Popular Party, she is scathing about the "parasitic" culture of state subsidies that flourished under the previous Socialist Government. Not surprisingly, Seville's Olympic bid promises "total self-financing" and a "lean, compact Games".

The arithmetic certainly seems convincing. Seville's "Olympics office" says the organisation of the Games will cost less than Atlanta did this year. Given the "existing *infrastructure*" left over from the Expo, they also state that the building costs will be a fraction of that spent by Barcelona, the Olympic venue in 1992.

The weakness in Seville's bid, however, is not hard to discern. The year 2004 may prove to be too soon to award the Games once more to a Spanish city. Athens and Cape Town, the other leaders of the pack, are playing their "*history*" and "Africa" cards respectively, and doing so with vigour. As the day of *Olympic judgment* approaches, Señora Becerril may have to reach for her fabled handbag again — and swing very hard.

Waging war on a wild frontier

ECOLOGISTS have declared war on the Socialist regional government of Andalusia for granting permission to Prince Alfonso de Hohenlohe, a Costa del Sol grandee, to build a luxury tourist complex near one of Europe's greatest areas of wilderness.

The complex threatens the Coto Doñana National Park, sited at the estuary of the Guadalquivir River. These sprawling wetlands are home to such winged wonders as the squacco heron, black-winged stilt, whiskered tern and sand grouse. But ecologists argue that the development will bring with it a disruptive new species: the moneyed vulture.

GAMMA

Soledad Becerril Bustamante, who was briefly the Minister for Culture

Accolade for British professor

"I WISH I had been born in Seville," Sir John Elliott has often said, understandably perhaps for someone who came into the world in relatively frumpish Reading.

At a moving ceremony yesterday, the Regius Professor of History at Oxford was compensated for *his disappointment* by being given Spain's very own version of the Nobel — the Prince of Asturias Prize.

The award, made for Professor Elliott's contribution to "the understanding abroad of Spanish history", as well as for "undoing clichés and stereotypes about the decisive periods of Spain's past", is his second Spanish decoration in *only a few weeks*. Last month, he was invested with the Grand Cross of the Order of Isabel the Catholic by *José Maria Aznar, the Spanish* Prime Minister.

Professor Elliott, arguably the world's greatest Hispanist, became a household name in Spain after the publication in 1986 of his book on the Count-Duke of Olivares, the Chief Minister of Philip IV. It tells of Spain's decline in the 17th century, a process which the professor has often *likened* to Britain's decline after the Second World War.

Austrian far Right plans euro ambush

Jörg Haider with his wife, Claudia: the Tories deny his claims of contacts with British Conservatives

Roger Boyes reports from Klagenfurt on the meteoric rise of a politician who has praised Nazi policies and may be carried into power by anti-Maastricht tactics

JÖRG HAIDER, Europe's most dynamic and perhaps *most dangerous far Right* politician, is preparing an ambush that he hopes will propel *him towards the* chancellorship of Austria.

As he explains his future march to power he suddenly smiles, like a girl, and one glimpses how this 46-year-old lawyer can seduce more than a million Austrians into making him the critical third force in the claustrophobic politics of the Alpine republic.

Could that smile undo Maastricht? In the lakeside Cafe Lido on the fringe of his *home town of Klagenfurt, it is* possible to believe in Herr Haider's future. The customers, spooning cream into their afternoon hot chocolate, have almost to be held back in their eagerness to wave, touch, or click heels.

It is easy in such *moments* to forget his praise for Hitler's employment policies (slave *labour), his respectful address* to veterans of the Waffen SS, the blistering racism of his soap box oratory. Nowadays Herr Haider leaves home with a muzzle. Since the remarkable European election results of his Freedom Party last month — almost 30 per cent of the vote — he has been carefully circling the citadels of power. A party congress this weekend will confirm the new bid for respectability: a bright mini-skirted doctor of law, Susi Riess, is to become the party general secretary. Unlike her male colleagues in *the leadership, she never lets* slip a comment about greasy job-stealing foreigners or Jewish conspiracies. And if British Euro-sceptics in the Conserva*tive Party or the Referendum* Party can give him a leg up by helping to form a cross-national anti-Maastricht alliance then so much the better. Herr Haider says his party has been networking with Conservatives in the so-called European Research Group — which aims at bonding Eurosceptic politicians — for more than two years at meetings in Oxford, Paris and London. There have, he said, been other contacts with British Conservatives, visiting Vienna. The Conservative Party has denied holding talks with Herr Haider.

And now for the master plan. If, as expected, the *European summit in London* in March 1998 decides who is *in and who is out of* economic and monetary union (EMU) and if Austria makes the grade, then *Herr Haider will* spring his trap. "We will immediately launch a petition demanding a referendum on the single currency and I can see no problem in raising the necessary signatures."

The petition will then be submitted to parliament which must decide how to proceed. "The extraordinary thing is this: we will have the presidency in the second half *of 1998, and we will also have a* general election, probably at the beginning of 1999.

"So if the governing parties turn down our request for an EMU referendum they will put us in an unstoppable pole position for the elections. If on the other hand they approve a referendum, the vote will probably go against the euro and we are the ones who will gain."

Popular discontent with *Europe, in other words, will* carry Herr Haider into government for Austrian loyalty to the schilling far outweighs misgivings about his party. It is, say Freedom Party strategists, a formula that cannot fail if only because the current governing grand coalition of Social Democrats and the conservative People's Party "appears to be in a deep coma". The key, to borrow from John Cleese's *Fawlty Towers* performance, is not to mention the war.

Herr Haider's party has to be beyond any suspicion that it is a right-wing extremist group or, as Austrian commentators phrase it, "Fascistoid". It is absurd, says Herr Haider, to suggest that the party is National Socialist — "if anything, we are slightly to the left of the British Conservatives". He said: "I was born in 1950 and I am *among* the older ones now in our party — we are the youngest party with the youngest voters."

Yet there is something unsettling about the rapid rise of a nationalist movement in Austria, birthplace of Hitler and many of the Nazi elite. Franz Schausberger, the historian and People's Party politician, this week pointed to the parallels between the National Socialist German Workers' *Party in 1932 and today's* Freedom Party.

Both parties pushed their way into mainstream politics as an alternative to socialist and conservatives [illegible] started as protest [illegible] both made a successful bid for the loyalty of small shopkeepers, both have strong populist leaders.

But in fact there are as *many* differences as there are similarities. To become Chancellor in 1998-99 Herr Haider will almost certainly need a coalition partner. It could be either the Social Democrats or the People's Party, but he notes that the People's Party is moving his way on Europe. The cards, in other words, are already being reshuffled in Austria. And, when the governing parties in Austria start dealing directly with Herr *Haider, then he hopes that* there will no longer be a need for British politicians to deny having contact with him.

The smile that accompanies the *statement* is no longer that of a debutante; it is wolfish.

> ❛ It is unsettling to see the rapid rise of nationalism in Austria, birthplace of Hitler and the Nazi elite ❜

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Motorist knocks down blasphemy charge

FROM RICHARD OWEN
IN ROME

TO THE dismay of the Vatican, a court ruled yesterday that blasphemy against the Virgin Mary was no longer a crime under Italian law.

The ruling emerged when Massimo Catuzzi, 23 and unemployed, from Avezanno in Abruzzo, was stopped by police while driving a new Alfa-75 sports *car imported from France, where VAT is* lower. He was unable to prove the car was *legally imported*, and police confiscated it. Signor Caruzzi then "let out a torrent of curses against God, the Madonna and all the saints", police said.

Police charged Signor Catuzzi not only with illegally importing the car, but also with blasphemy under Article 724 of the penal code. Signor Catuzzi's lawyer contested the blasphemy charge, and a judge in Avezanno ruled that while taking the name of God in vain was still a *crime, inveighing against the Virgin* Mary was not. Blasphemy has been an offence in *Italy since Roman times. But* Italians habitually use a rich vocabulary of insults, almost all of which involve religion. Signor Caruzzi's lawyer, Roberto Jageregger, said he had taken advantage of a little noticed change in the law by the Constitutional Court, differentiating between blasphemy against "the Divinity" and abuse of "*venerated persons*" such as the Virgin Mary.

Vatican officals said last night insulting God and the Virgin Mary carried the same weight in the confessional.

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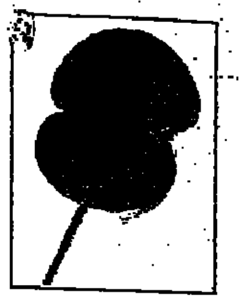


■ OPINION

Artists have often been both fascinated and repelled by the sights and sounds of war

■ DANCE

Darcey Bussell shines as the Royal Ballet stages MacMillan's *Prince of the Pagodas*

THE TIMES ARTS

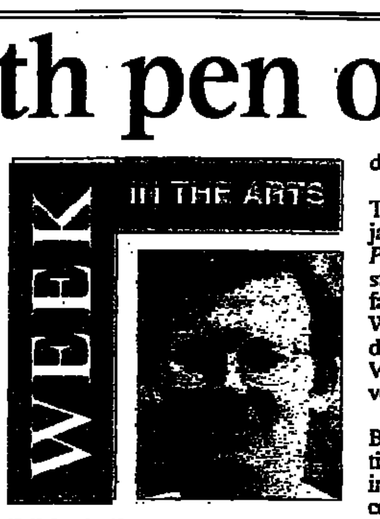
■ POP

The right band at the wrong time: Screaming Trees survived grunge, but fashion may be the death of them

■ NEXT WEEK

The making of an epic: behind the scenes as English National Opera prepares for *Die Soldaten*

Into battle with pen or paintbrush



RICHARD MORRISON

When you think about it — which most of us don't, except when Remembrance Sunday looms — the subject of war has inspired a remarkable amount of the world's finest music, poetry and painting. From the stirring cadences of Homer's *Iliad* to the chilling stomp of Shostakovich's *Leningrad Symphony*, the smell of bloodshed has had a curiously energising effect on those who are ostensibly the pillars of peaceful civilisation: the artists.

Why is this? What does it say about the moral value of art, if there is any? And what does it tell us about ourselves, as we sit enjoying entertainment derived from man's inhumanity to man?

These are heavy questions for Saturday breakfast. But at a time when the "violence quota" of films and television is under scrutiny, it is worth reminding ourselves that the tradition of writing, drawing or singing about the killing fields is as ancient as war itself. In the same way, a Government that is implacably opposed to "gun culture" and "knife culture" might ponder the irony that £42 million has just been spent on a new museum — the Royal Armouries in Leeds — devoted to celebrating the tools of death. I don't say that this is wrong; merely that the relationship between culture and violence goes a great deal deeper than a *Daily Mail* editorial.

It would be comforting, but blinkered, to imagine that art has always been on the side of the angels. True, there have been some stupendous statements of pacifism. What tourist in Madrid, moving from Goya's *Shootings of May 3rd 1808* to Picasso's *Guernica*, does not feel a desolate despair at seeing these overwhelming portrayals of human vileness echoing each other across the centuries?

Who can read Wilfred Owen's poems and not rage, even at 80 years' distance, at the waste and folly catalogued with such tender restraint by a man surviving, and then not surviving, in the squalor of the trenches? Who does not hear, in the disruptive martial fanfares of Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*, a perpetual warning from the greatest of all visionaries about the fragility of peace?

Yet even in pacifist art there is ambiguity: a tension between the message (don't make war) and the medium (actually, the sounds and sights of battle are thrilling). When Francis Coppola choreographs the helicopter gunships to Wagner's *Ride of the Valkyries*, the image is nasty but also disturbingly exhilarating. It certainly overwhelms any "anti-war" message that *Apocalypse Now* may carry.

Something similar happens in Tippett's Trojan War opera, *King Priam*. The work's philosophy is utterly bleak. Kings and heroes stumble to war for the "best of reasons", but the result is the same as if they were mass-murderers: bloodlust triumphs; ignorant armies clash by night; civilisation is demolished; and youth lies slain.

Yet the curious truth is that Tippett, the conscientious objector jailed for pacifism, litters *King Priam* with the sounds of bloodstained glory: spectacularly harsh fanfares; bloodcurdling war-cries. We are invited to be repelled and dazzled by war at the same time. Very disconcerting, very murky, very 20th-century, very honest.

I feel more queasy about Britten's *War Requiem*. Not, this time, because of any ambiguity inside the work — it is a flawlessly contrived piece of political correctness — but because its pacifism sits so oddly alongside the sadism and perversion that litters Britten's other works: child-beating in *Peter Grimes*, cannibalism in *St Nicholas*, rape in *The Rape of Lucretia*, lashing and hanging in *Billy Budd*, psychological hounding in *The Turn of the Screw* … For a man supposedly appalled by violence, Britten did set an awful lot of it to music.

Some of the most touching responses to war come from unexpected sources. After he had lost his son in Flanders, Kipling — that bard of imperial macho — wrote his greatest poem, *The Children*: a short but devastating cry of grief and guilt, in which the wretched details of young death in the trenches are turned over and over, as if by an old man searching for sense in the senseless, and consolation in a hell of eternal self-reproach ("They believed us, and perished for it").

I hear the same anguished tone in the Cello Concerto written after the First World War by Elgar — another "jaunty jingoist" broken by the deaths not only of his wife and friends, but of the old certainties of England itself. Both the Cello Concerto and Elgar's deeply affecting setting of Laurence Binyon's *For the Fallen* seem to intimate that, in the face of mass slaughter, the artist's only response is lamentation.

But today, is even that too much? Elgar and Kipling lived to know the name Hitler, but neither heard the words Holocaust or atomic bomb. What passing-bells *now* for these who die as cattle? The answer is that art, like religion, can make no helpful response to genocide. "Total war" has progressed — if that is the right word — beyond any comfort zone that music or poetry can provide, and any artists foolish enough to make "the pity of war" their subject today usually end up looking crass, glib or opportunistic.

No wonder that, after 1945, many serious composers, poets and painters became reluctant to express *any* overt feeling, retreating instead into the sterile intellectualism which we know as modern art. But that's another story.

Singular, perfect Rose

DANCE

Prince of the Pagodas
Covent Garden

The realm of fairy-tale was never Kenneth MacMillan territory. In ballets like *Manon*, *Mayerling* and *Romeo and Juliet*, he preferred the naturalistic depiction of overwrought human passion and its tragic consequences. So when, in his last full-length ballet, he ventured into the world of fairy-tale, he could not resist exploring the darkness at its centre.

The Prince of the Pagodas is an amalgam of well-known narrative influences: *Sleeping Beauty*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *King Lear*. But it is *Sleeping Beauty* that the late choreographer was honouring in his 1989 ballet, now revived at Covent Garden after an absence of six years.

Like Aurora, Princess Rose undergoes a rite of passage, although — unlike her 19th-century ancestor — Rose suffers a violent sexual initiation. This takes place in Act II where, in a nightmare vision, each of the four Kings has his wicked way with her, none more wicked than the King of the South, whose overpowering of Rose is enacted in stylised slow motion.

Like *Sleeping Beauty*, however, this fairy-tale has a happy ending. Rose emerges unspoilt, ready to reclaim her Prince from his land of the Pagodas. And the golden glow of harmony, the victory of good over evil, is celebrated in Act III with a gush of Petipa-inspired classicism.

MacMillan's response to Benjamin Britten's difficult score is only sporadically effective. The choreography is, at times, deliberately awkward, with an almost obsessive need to keep the dancers on edge.

Nicholas Georgiadis's set, inspired by Elizabethan paintings, is — like the court itself — dark and distorted, a dwarf landscape of crenellated castle walls where crouching, half-human creatures lie in wait, like vultures before a feed.

This was the ballet that made a star of Darcey Bussell. What inspired MacMillan to choose her as his Rose was her extraordinary freshness, stunning physique and total lack of self-importance. Six years later, Bussell remains a glorious embodiment of lavish physicality, whose radiance and purity shimmer triumphantly against the jagged corruption of MacMillan's ballet.

Bussell's carriage is big, bold and beautiful. Her limbs unfold with the consistency of double cream, and the sheer breadth of her dancing still astounds. Dramatically, Rose poses no thespian challenge beyond the portrayal of sweet innocence and compassion, qualities which MacMillan saw came naturally to Bussell.

As for the rest of the opening night cast, performances were mixed. Anthony Dowell did his best as the caricatured Emperor, the Lear figure who turns daughter against daughter with the unfair division of his realm. Stuart Cassidy was an effective Prince and handled his demotion to salamander well. But Christina McDermott, making her debut as the malicious half-sister Epine, was not yet on top of her dancing.

DEBRA CRAINE

DEE CONWAY

The Emperor (Anthony Dowell) and his doctors in the Royal Ballet's revival of MacMillan's *Prince of the Pagodas*

Bark with bite

POP

Screaming Trees
Astoria, WC2

AFTER ten years of hard labour, hard liquor and hard luck, Screaming Trees have finally arrived in the right place, but at the wrong time. Their seventh album, *Dust*, has been acclaimed as a post-grunge masterpiece. But the British pop landscape has changed beyond recognition since the band from Ellensburg, Washington, last played here in 1993.

Back then, doom, gloom and Americans with loud guitars were all the rage. Now, in the wake of Britpop, we are entering one of those glamorous pure-pop phases, and American rock'n'roll is only invited to the party if it dresses itself up in pretty colours.

One look at singer Mark Lanegan is enough to get Screaming Trees turned away at the door. The lank hair, the leather trousers, the vaguely haunted expression … this man has "serious rocker" written all over him. He stands, gripping the microphone stand with both hands, as if he might fall over without it, apparently unaware of the scenes of pandemonium unfolding around him.

On-stage he is flanked by the flailing forms of the Conner brothers, Van (bass) and Gary Lee (guitar). They make all the most dramatic moves, but ostentatiously transgress one of the basic rules of rock'n'roll by being rather fat. Also on stage is "guest" guitarist Josh Homme (of the Californian group Kyuss) and drummer Barrett Martin, who ends the show by lifting his bass drum above his head and hurling it to the floor in front of him.

They play magnificently. Starting with a moody *Shadow of the Season* and then the downwardly striding riff of *Dying Days*, with its echoes of Cream's *White Room*, they distil the essence of traditional heavy rock into a sound that is distinctively their own.

Much of the credit for this belongs to Lanegan. His deep vocal timbre sounds quite unlike the brittle tone of most hard rock shouters. And when the band venture into the more melodic territory of *All I Know* and the gorgeous new single *Sworn and Broken*, they could almost be R.E.M. on steroids, or even the Lemonheads before they wimped out.

As usual at this kind of event, the audience plays its own role in the entertainment. Upstairs seems to be full of people who have come directly from the office, but on the dancefloor below, a steady stream of crowd-surfers goes riding over the heads of their peers crammed in front of the stage. The activity reaches fever pitch during the big surges of *Gospel Plow* and *Halo of Ashes*, both of which feature vaguely Eastern, sitar-like guitar drones.

It is a mightily impressive display, and if this wasn't an industry so beset by the vagaries of fashion, you would say that here is a band whose moment had come.

DAVID SINCLAIR

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Mandarins, politicians and morality

Whitehall dreads turning emotion into law, argues **Sue Cameron**

Whitehall knows of no spectacle so depressing as the British political class in one of its periodic fits of morality. It is not the potential hypocrisy of it all that is creating gloom throughout the upper echelons of the Civil Service. It is the prospect of ministers and backbenchers spewing out great gobbets of raw emotion and demanding that officials turn them into law.

Civil servants know in their bones that legislating to make people good is an *impossibility*. Yet such is the hysteria sweeping through Westminster that politicians of all persuasions seem determined to make the attempt. Party *leaders are vying with* each other to display their moral credentials to a sceptical public and Whitehall fears for the consequences.

Civil servants know it is they *who will be left to cope with* the mess in the form of ill-considered laws that are rushed through with the aim of making political capital out of the present tide of moral *fervour*.

Forthcoming legislation on handguns, knives and stalkers is all too likely to fall into this category. Meanwhile, carefully considered Bills that officials have been working on for months are to be dropped lest they stir up an ungodly row with moral authoritarians on the political fringe. One example is the Adoption Bill, which would end the cruelty of preventing couples adopting a child they have reared from babyhood purely because he or she is ethnically different from them. Ministers fear *right-wing backbenchers* will cause a furore by demanding amendments banning adoption by gays or lesbians.

With a likely six months to go before the general election, there is little the Civil Service can do but grit its teeth and prepare for a stint of bad government. "Civil servants are always uneasy with matters of morality," remarked *one senior official this week*. "The Civil Service is about the practicalities of government, about what will work and what will not. If a country has lost its way in a broad, moral *sense then you cannot* and should not expect civil servants to navigate a way through — it's not their job. That is the job of political leaders, of the media and of *the Church*."

But the reality is that civil servants are being asked to provide what one called "quick fixes" for the moral indignation that has seized Westminster. The *drawback* is that good law and quick responses do not go together.

Whitehall abhors bad law. It causes misery and frustration to the public, it injures the *professional pride of civil servants*, it generates hostile correspondence and embroils the Government in endless court cases. Civil servants also have the daunting prospect of de*fending the indefensible for* years to come — governments are notoriously unwilling to give up slots in the legislative timetable so that defective laws can be corrected. Witness *the Dangerous Dogs Act*.

What is galling for officials is that in the present political climate they are powerless to insist on stringent standards being applied to new legislation. *Take the row over knives*. Drawing a legal distinction between kitchen knives and those designed purely for combat is extraordinarily difficult. Even if a definition could be agreed, it is doubtful if a ban on combat knives would be enforceable.

Yet with Labour threatening to outdo the Government in its demand for a moral stand against violence, ministers are finding it increasingly hard to resist calls for quick-fix legislation. Michael Howard's plan for new police powers to stop and search undesirables for combat *knives is an idea* everyone must applaud. But whether further proposals to ban the knives themselves will prove workable is another matter.

And if the Government is not careful, the two-strikes-and-you're-out law against stalking could catch every rejected suitor who tries to persuade his beloved to *change her mind. Spiteful* people may have the chance to turn broken love affairs into full-scale courtroom dramas.

Handguns provide another example of politicians accept*ing shoddy* standards of administration in their bid to capture the morality vote. After the Dunblane massacre, Lord Cullen's inquiry spent months taking evidence and weighing it up. Yet ministers announced a near total handgun ban when they had barely had time to read the report, let alone consider its suggestions. No government should be criticised for taking a different view from that of a particular report — but only after giving some thought to the recommendations.

This is not to suggest that no attempt should be made to curb the culture of violence in our society by toughening up the law. What is at issue is the way it is done. Civil servants believe that the first aim of planned new laws on guns and knives is to win votes — a reasonable objective for politicians, but one that leaves little room for Whitehall to apply its rigorous standards of fairness *and feasibility to the new* legislation. Nor is this another case of the Sir Humphreys opposing change out of innate conservatism. Whitehall is often guilty of that, but here *there is genuine concern* about the difficulties of getting the law right.

Some politicians believe the public and the Civil *Service should take* comfort from the way the leading parties are seeking a consensus over legislation on certain moral questions. The proposed ban on combat knives is *the most obvious example*, with Mr Howard consulting the other parties. Whitehall does not share the sanguine view that this is desirable. Put the point to senior civil ser*vants and they groan audibly*. Experience has taught them that political opposition at least holds out some hope of legislation being scrutinised and amended so that it ends as *a reasonable statute. With all* the political parties in cahoots there is far less chance of that happening.

Ultimately, there is a high price indeed to be paid for *hurried, badly drafted, un*workable legislation. It undermines the moral force of our law by bringing it into disrepute. Without that moral authority, all the high princi*pled efforts of the Westminster* legislature are worthless.

Gerry Adams is wrong to blame the British for the Irish linguistic decline, says **Geoffrey Wheatcroft**

Why Hebrew is living and Irish Gaelic is dying

Throughout these islands, we are witnessing the death of the ancient and beautiful Celtic languages, which is a great sadness. But whose fault is it? According to Gerry Adams, in a letter ot *The Times* on Wednesday, it was "English hegemony" which destroyed Irish Gaelic, "as part of a process of seeking to undermine any sense of Irish identity and making British colonial *rule acceptable*".

That is not wholly false. But, if English hostility was one factor in the demise of Gaelic, it was only one. Daniel O'Connell was the greatest leader Catholic Ireland has ever had, and a cradle Gaelic-speaker, but he was also a contemporary of the Utilitarians, and of the Jacobins who wanted to "extirpate those barbarous jargons" like Breton or Provencal, as "relics of feudalism and slavery". O'Connell likewise saw Gaelic as an impediment to progress, and was content to see it die.

Then the language was dealt an appalling blow by the Great Famine and by emigration, before Douglas Hyde founded the Gaelic League in 1893 to revive the language. *This was adopted as the great* cultural project of advanced or "republican" nationalism in Ireland. In 1916, Patrick Pearse, who led the Easter *Rising and was sentenced to* death by the British, believed that he was dying for the Gaelic language, and after 1922 the newly autonomous Irish Free State began a ferocious policy of official Gaelicisation

For generations, Gaelic (or Irish, as nationalists like to call it) was taught compulsorily in Irish schools. Proficiency was a requirement for civil servants and barristers. Every official institution or post was given a Gaelic name. Eamon de Valera's 1937 Constitution pronounced Gaelic the "first *national language*" *of the* country.

And today, after 75 years of political autonomy, the Gaelic Revival has been a total and unqualified failure, not to say *an abject and contemptible* failure. Gaelic is now the everyday language of fewer than 20,000 people, a fraction of a per cent of the Irish *population*.

If English malice explains the decline of Gaelic when Ireland was ruled by England, how does it explain the failure of the revival since independence, especially when Ireland is compared with other countries?

The Finns and the Czechs were also ruled by larger and more powerful neighbours, and their languages were *sim*ilarly overshadowed, Finnish by Swedish and then Russian, Czech by German. Today, the Finns speak Finnish, the Czechs speak Czech, and the *Irish speak English*.

Another comparison is starker still. At the time Hyde founded the Gaelic League, there were still several hundred thousand native Gaelic-*speakers*. Hebrew was the Jews' Latin, liturgical and literary language, but it hadn't been a vernacular since the Babylonian Captivity. Today, Hebrew is the everyday language of five million people, roughly equivalent to the whole population of Ireland, and more Palestinian Arabs talk Hebrew than Irish talk "Irish".

De Valera used to speak with awe and envy of the "miraculous" rebirth of Hebrew. It was indeed *astonishing, perhaps the most* remarkable accomplishment of Zionism, but it was not a miracle. It required no devine intervention, only a collective act of will which the Irish could have emulated if they had chosen. They didn't, and thereby existentially confuted "republicanism".

To call the failure abject and contemptible does not mean that the Irish are an abject and contemptible people; it does by definition mean that they are not the people Hyde, Pearse and de Valera claimed they were.

Instead of being revived as a vernacular, Gaelic came to play a quaint totemic role in the official life of Ireland. Although the head of government speaks English in parliament, he is called the "Taoiseach", and it is called the "Dail". (Incidentally, Taoiseach doesn't literally mean "prime minister", it means "Leader", just like "Duce" or Fu"hrer": a fashionable type of name at the time they were all adopted.)

Not only is Ireland the one country on earth where the parliament, the prime minister and the political parties all have names in an unspoken language. Even quainter, we on this side of the Irish Sea, politicians and journalists connive at the pretence by using those Gaelic names. This is odder still since we don't talk or write about "the Democristiani", "the Kanzler, Helmut *Kohl*", or "the Chambre des députés" in Paris — though the Italians, Germans and French do actually speak their own languages. Perhaps we should make a practice of saying "Soldiers of Destiny" for Fianna Fail, "Band of Gaels" for Fine Gael, and "We Ourselves" for Sinn Fein.

W*hat is most sombre* of all is that last name. Every time we hear the words Sinn Fein it is a reminder that cultural and linguistic nationalism, which could have been such a creative and nourishing force in Ireland, has been a total failure in its own terms, but has at the same time been prostituted to the most sterile and murderous form of political nationalism.

If Irish republicans had devoted to the linguistic revival half the energy they have devoted to violence, Gaelic might not be — as it is, alas, — on the point of extinction. But then, as Gerry Adams knows, reviving a language is awfully like hard word. Killing children is so much easier.

Hong Kong: blighted by Britain

Once an elegant colonial port, it now resembles Fritz Lang's *Metropolis*

Simon Jenkins

Two Hong Kongs are shortly to be handed over by Britain to the Chinese. One is a partly democratic political entity of the six million people (of which I shall write next week). The other is not partly anything. It is one of the world's most astonishing cities, as big in population as London and as architecturally stunning as Manhattan.

When I first visited it two decades ago, I asked a local official how the city would develop over the rest of British rule. Hong Kong Island could surely be a paradise resort of the 21st century, I said. He looked incredulous. "The Chinese are going to wreck it anyway," he said. "This is a case of slash and burn. Hong Kong property is good for one serious harvest."

There are six months to go and the harvest is bearing sensational fruit. Today's Hong Kong is completely unrecognisable from *the city I first visited* in 1973, and again ten years later. First, almost every trace of old Hong Kong has vanished. Of *the* 50 colonial period buildings listed as worth preserving 20 years ago by the antiquities office (under the admirable Solomon Bard) barely 20 survive. Then it was still possible to enjoy the *commerical promenade round* Chater Gardens and Statue Square. Today this is a forest of skyscrapers, including ones by Norman Foster and I.M Pei. They sway over a maelstrom of traffic flyovers and *pedestrian walkways, out of Fritz* Lang's *Metropolis*.

The terrace of Government House once looked out over the harbour to Kowloon on the mainland. Despite handsome restoration by the Pattens, *it now huddles beneath a lowering*, throbbing, belching wall of glass and steel that makes midtown New York look like a terrace in Pimlico. No harbour is visible, only money. Hong Kong has become a vertical city. *Crammed into the mile that divides* the waterfront from the Peak escarpment must be the greatest concentration of the tallest towers that man has fixed to rock anywhere on Earth. Towers dot every hillside, cove, *horizon and plateau from the island* to the Chinese border.

Hong Kong's economic refugees arrived from China not, like most such migrants, to start a new life at the bottom of the housing ladder in *shanty towns. They found the em*bracing arms of a British welfare state, loyal to the lore of the 1970s high-rise housing estate. They are the best housed, best schooled, best transported refugees anywhere.

Yet the huge townships in the New Territories are today reminiscent of a communist Karl-Marx-Stadt. Were it not for the mountains and sea relieving their monotony, Hong Kong's 500 or so towers would be regarded as an architectural outrage.

The green slopes that once ran down to Aberdeen harbour are hidden behind concrete blocks more than 20 storeys high. Architects occasionally put a pediment here, a cornice line there, a squiggle or a change of colour to lend character to their creations. The attempt is desperate. The conversion of once-lovely Repulse Bay into a monstrous, continuous 30-storey wall of housing is a world beater for scenic offence.

Over this wild development now hovers the same question mark as hovers over all Hong Kong. What will become of it? The optimist's answer is the nervous assertion that the city is too rich, too awesome and too indispensable to be stopped. Hong Kong has reached a critical mass. Like London or New York, it cannot turn back.

The logos of high-tech finance houses — Citibank, Standard Chartered, Bank of America — adorn the downtown skyscrapers, as if rendering them immune to evil deities. Their credit lines are secure. Their *satellites are in place. They have* directors "with friends in Peking". Like the Hongs of old, they are so rich they have won the right to live forever. In the midst of all this money is the communist Bank of China, *Pei's silver dagger pinning* Peking firmly to the cause of money.

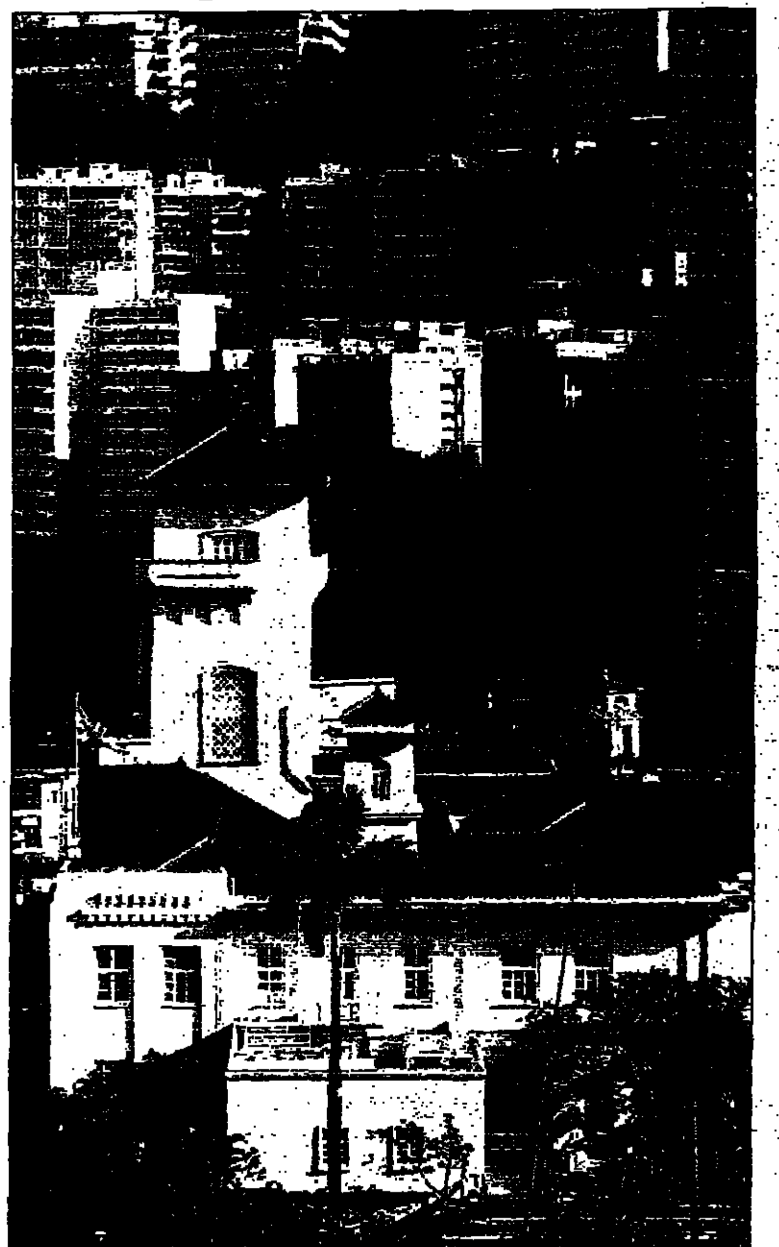
I'm normally an optimist about cities. But something about Hong Kong leaves me uneasy. The place has been primarily a political phe*nomenon, and its politics are about to* change drastically. Peking and its party princelings will pour into Hong Kong next year, like the merchants of old, to make a quick fortune. But they will not do so at any cost.

Of all the forecasts for 1997 and after that I have read, the most plausible is *Red Flag Over Hong Kong*, by Bruce Bueno de Mesquita and his colleagues (for America's equivalent of Chatham House). It *discounts all Chinese promises of* civil rights and most promises of economic freedom. *It points out that* Hong Kong will eventually become just another Chinese city, vulnerable to corruption, cronyism and distorted priorities. Political rivalry with Shanghai and Canton will be bitter. Every effort by its leaders to keep Hong Kong special will be fought by central government.

The world can show plenty of meteoric cities that have passed from prosperity to decline. The towers of *Beirut and Tehran, the skyscrapers of* Lagos, the tourist high rises of the Costa Brava, all saw their days come and go: subverted by political upheaval, or by markets that changed and became more discriminating. They survive only as shadows, squatted in by new waves of migrants, driving down property values and causing their environs to deteriorate. What had been built for the rich found its future with the poor.

The gloomiest pessimists envisage the towers of Hong Kong pockmarked with *the mortar bombs and* tracer bullets of People's Liberation Army units suppressing pro-democracy insurgents. I would be less pessimistic but no less sanguine. Britain has created in Hong Kong a technologically advanced city that is overdeveloped. To make it work requires justice, civil liberty and administrative competence that British colonialism was rare in being able to supply. It is inconceivable that this city could be immunised for long against the chaos and corruption that come with Chinese sovereignty.

After a carefully engineered boom, I would expect Hong Kong to go slowly downmarket. Its richest citizens will move to Singapore or farther afield. Favouritism and socialism will blunt its competitive edge, pollute its stock market and depress its property. The familiar signs will appear. Poorer housing estates will deteriorate and For Sale banners will go up across the proud façades on the waterfront. New immigrants from hitherto unimagined persecutions will colonise the hinterland estates. The university will become rebellious. *Lifts* will fail, stairs will clog. The horror of high rise development is that it needs high-tech maintenance, as shanty towns do not. Hong Kong will start to look drab and communist. "British Rule" will be a phrase to bring tears to the eyes of tenants, taxi drivers and stockbrokers alike. The market bulls, optimists and collaborationists who now attack Chris Patten and talk of Peking's "realism" will recall the early 1990s as a Golden Age.



Government House, Hong Kong: overshadowed by the vertical city

But Britain's physical legacy will make Hong Kong's fate harder to bear. How we rule *human settlements dictates* how they rule us. Brutalise the city and the city will brutalise its inhabitants. The British-built Hong Kong that I saw two decades ago expressed a century — or perhaps half a century — *of liberal colonialism. The* Hong Kong Club, the Customs House, the Victoria Barracks, the corniche road and the mostly unspoilt south of the island all illustrated a British presence that could have been an example to China of balanced town-and-country development: the old alongside the new, landscape respected, diversity conserved.

Just as Britain is rightly allowing the Chinese to "choose" democracy or dictatorship next year, it should be letting them choose between preserving a well-ordered urban legacy or destroying it. Instead today's Hong Kong is a relentless, inflexible city, expensive to maintain, its horizons exciting but defiled and its streets devoid of memorials to its past. At its heart is a cluster of skyscrapers, gigantic, dazzling symbols of capitalism. We must remember that China's rulers remain firmly committed to the destruction of that capitalism. Britain has left them an easy target.

THE TIMES DIARY

Daggers out

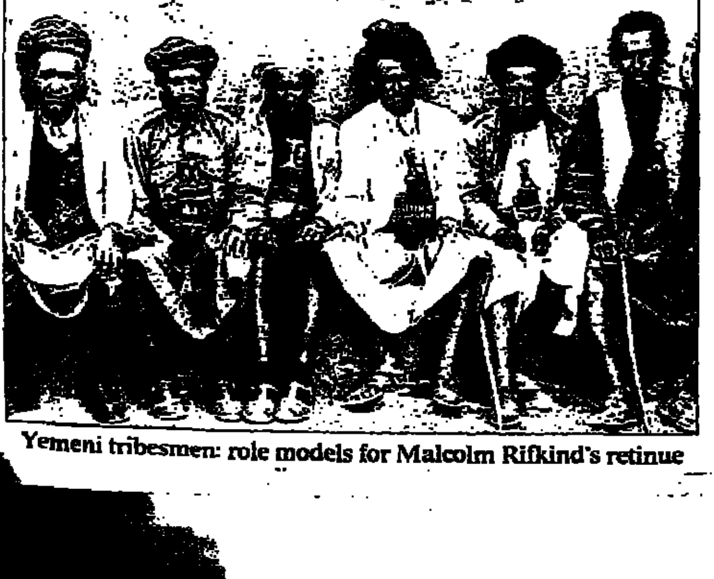
THERE can surely be no finer way to snatch an idle moment in Yemen than browsing for souvenirs through its souks, as Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, and his delegation discovered on his recent trip to the country's capital, Sanaa.

Foreign Office staff and journalists settled to a man on one of the requisites of the Yemeni tribesmen: the ceremonial dagger — short, sharp, indispensable and freely available to the passing tourist.

Back in London, Rifkind's Cabinet colleagues were wrestling with the problem of dangerous knives, with Michael Howard talking of "suss" laws to stop and search suspected gangs of knife-holders such as these dagger-owning mandarins. Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, believes in straightforward confiscation.

Asked whether these daggers are used for domestic purposes, an offended tribesman retorted: "No, we use them to kill people."

Clearly aware of these sensitivities, Rifkind decided against the daggers and settled for an assortment of silver trinkets.



Yemeni tribesmen: role models for Malcolm Rifkind's retinue

- *The gun lobby plans to exact revenge on the Government for its new restrictions on gun ownership. In a spiteful little move, the British Shooting Sports Council is urging those with firearms to vote for Jimmy Goldsmith's Referendum Party.*

Misfired

FOR ALL of Andrew Neil's modest assertions about his editorial flair at the helm of *The Sunday Times* in his autobiography, he has failed to impress one reader.

Linda Melvern, a former journalist with the paper, is planning to sue him, claiming that he has given a "tendentious and distorted account" of the circumstances that led him to fire her. Neil dismissed Linda for taking too much time off to write a book. He describes a meeting after which she left his office "almost in tears, clearly aghast at the idea of being made to work for a paper that paid her salary".

Linda insists that no such meeting took place and that Neil distorted an account of her subsequent industrial tribunal hearing which she lost. Her solicitors, Shepstone Welsh, are threatening proceedings: "It's a matter of regret that Mr Neil, a former Editor of *The Sunday Times*, can't get his facts right."

- *Lennox Gardens, a chi-chi little corner of London, has been suffering from a spate of car thefts. Latest victim is James Gilbey, motor racing executive and close friend of Diana, Princess of Wales, whom he once called Squidgy. His metallic blue Ford Sierra Cosworth has been nabbed.*

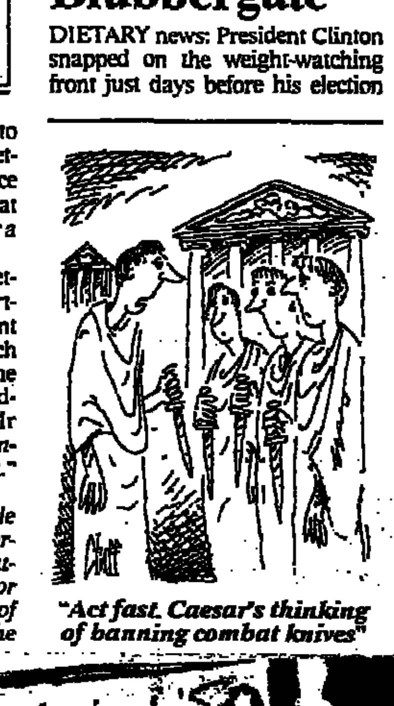
Gilbey now has nothing in which to cruise Fulham and South Kensington. Too bad.

Blubbergate

DIETARY news: President Clinton snapped on the weight-watching front just days before his election victory. Campaign team dieticians had desperately been urging Democrats at fundraising dinners to adhere to low-fat menus.

To no avail. Tired of endless low-fat, low-salt food, in San José one evening the President took on the demeanour of an angry warthog: he cleaned his plate three times then, on returning to his plane, polished off a roast beef dinner.

Before long he was back to sending out for double orders of fried chicken and chips. *The New Republic* reports that in one sitting, he guzzled "marinated crab claws, crawfish gazpacho, pan-seared yellowfin tuna with Creole tomato cream and Louisiana crawfish tails, catfish, pecan country apple pie with home-made cinnamon ice-cream and caramel sauce, white chocolate bread pudding and home-made raspberry yoghurt".



"Act fast. Caesar's thinking of banning combat knives"

Eau no

TIME to reach for the clothes pegs as Michael Jackson's own brand of cologne finally wafts on to the market. Eau de Jackson, an idea planted in Jackson's head by his friend Elizabeth Taylor, had been due out a couple of years ago. Then some rather unsavoury stories about the singer and young boys popped up. Not the sort of publicity to guarantee the scent a place alongside Old Spice in a man's bathroom cabinet. Now it is to be revived.

Taylor: inspiration

At first the cologne will be marketed in Europe and Asia, where for some reason it is felt that Jackson's reputation is less soiled. But forget hairy chests and sunsets. Jackson's smell is expected to be non-gender-specific.

P·H·S

مصور من الاصل

BUCCANEERS FOR BRITAIN

Tories must be the party of the global trading nation

Since Her Majesty unveiled her Government's speech last month little has gone well for her ministers. At the start of this parliamentary session Tory strategists believed voters would return to a party which had delivered a powerful economy and which had policies closer to popular feeling on the social issues of greatest concern to the anxious classes — education and crime. In the short weeks since the Commons returned the Government has seen Labour steal its clothes on crime and a march in the polls. Ministers have forfeited credit for new disciplinary measures in schools with their own indiscipline on the airwaves. The economy remains robust but voters who remember the forced devaluation of four autumns ago will be inclined to think that growth has occurred despite, not because of, this Government.

The Tory leadership, angered by opposition opportunism and perplexed by the voters' ingratitude, has reacted sourly. Labour may well have cynically appropriated public concern about handguns and combat knives but the Conservatives' approach to law and order has also been marked by a keen sense of how to maximise party advantage. Ministers, instead of making disparaging references to Mr Blair as an American evangelist, might learn from America and start evangelising.

The Conservatives are handicapped in their ability to woo back the voters won by Thatcherism because the messengers are not always comfortable with the message. Greater radicalism in education with an extension of choice and selection should enthuse Tory voters but it does not excite the Education Secretary. The success of the economy since 1992 has depended on independence from Europe but that is not an argument one will hear from the Chancellor.

The story of economic success is also more difficult to tell because it cuts across one of the other themes that ministers must make their own — the need to make Britain more competitive yet. Yet the Conservatives should not shirk this message. The case for a smaller State is supportable morally because it maximises freedom, but it is also necessary economically because of the threat from the emerging economies of East Asia and Eastern Europe. Cutting taxes should be sold not as a way of winning an election, but a means of safeguarding jobs by keeping Britain competitive. The Government's White Paper on Trade later this month will bang Drake's drum for a buccaneering Britain. Central to that vision should be the State as flexible privateer rather than unwieldy and obsolete galleon.

Of course, the smaller State, like the far horizon, always appears out of reach. A series of positive, and practical suggestions on what to cut is, however, contained in a draft Tory manifesto published last month by the Centre for Policy Studies. *A Conservative Agenda: Proposals for a fifth term*, ranges across the public sector and advances imaginative proposals for healthcare vouchers, deregulation of welfare, the privatisation of the Crown Prosecution Service and prisons, the reform of student finance and the slimming of central government which any future Tory government should embrace and any Conservative opposition might use to shame Labour's own efforts to control expenditure.

The temper of the times is not, perhaps, as conducive to liberal economic reforms as it was in the Eighties. Certainly, any party which seeks to govern over the next five years will have to develop a language and policies which speak to the civic concerns developed by Frances Lawrence and others. That need not be difficult for the Conservatives. They can argue effectively that voters' concerns about the state of society spring from the social changes of the Sixties, not the economic reforms of the Eighties.

But even as that case is made, the arguments for even greater radicalism in the economic field must be advanced. The price of prosperity is adaptation, the duty of government is to show the way. This Government has allowed itself to be overwhelmed by forces outside its control and tarnished by allegations of sleaze. If the impression of both is ever to be erased then the Conservatives must convey a new sense of purpose. That purpose should be to reacquaint Britain with its true traditions, as a global trading nation.

PLASTERS OF PARIS

A unique fragment of Europe's past at risk

Amid the graver matters of Zaire, the 48-hour week and monetary union, it is unlikely that John Major found time in Bordeaux to show concern over the threatened Versailles plaster statues described by our Paris Correspondent on page 19 today. Perhaps he has no concern. The collection of 2,000 reproductions of Greek and Roman sculptures and buildings housed in the enormous "small stables" at Versailles is not as politically sensitive as the EU's working time directive: but their fate should be a source of concern to all of Europe. When two dozen of the world's leading art historians sound the alarm about plans to rehouse the collection, they should at least be heard.

Conservation campaigns frequently suffer from the self-inflicted damage of exaggeration. The Versailles mouldings will never be a mass tourist attraction, but they do amount to a priceless and irreplaceable record. Assembled over three centuries by French rulers determined to confront their artists and architects with the right inspiration, they have gradually gained in value as historical evidence. As the original Parthenon or Temple of Castor and Pollux in the Roman forum have weathered and been eaten by atmospheric pollution, the plaster casts remain perfect copies of the works as they were two or three centuries ago. Threatened in 1968 by Parisian rioters armed with hammers, they were moved from the École des Beaux Arts to Versailles. Concern about another possible move to an as yet unknown location stems from the damage which was done by the hurried move of the 1960s.

The value of the casts stretches beyond the fact that they record important works in relatively undamaged states. They were a vital medium of communication over the two centuries which saw classical art rediscovered and spread throughout Europe, setting styles and habits which surround us still. The French were not the only nation whose Renaissance artists and teachers hungrily digested and reproduced classical themes and disciplines. But they were much the most efficient collectors.

What began with private collections became public policy. Louis XIV's minister Jean-Baptiste Colbert ordered that the King's court "must have in France everything that is beautiful in Italy". Drawings were duly drawn, prints printed and casts made. We know that France's most subtle sculptor of the previous century, Jean Goujon, relied on plaster casts brought on slow mule journeys from Italy. Casts adorned many private collections and became part of a huge pan-European fashion for classical reproductions. The nymphs, caryatids and columns filling the space which Versailles now wants to turn into a tourist reception centre played their part in forming Europe's idea of itself.

If the French authorities must move the mouldings, the move should be carefully supervised and take the collection to a space sufficiently large to allow scholars and visitors proper access. Even better, the Culture Ministry might find a better place than the stable block to receive visitors to Versailles and leave the fragile plaster casts where they are.

WICKET MAIDENS

Women and children come first at sea, but second to cricket

There's a breathless wife in the Close tonight —
Ten to make and man of the match —
The voice of the girlfriend sounds proud and bright:
"You're my ideal of a perfect catch."

Should families accompany the England cricket team on tour? Most cricketers' wives say yes: why should we suffer December at home, while our husbands are wintering under the sun of Zimbabwe and New Zealand? Familiar female presence, it is said, calms the bad behaviour of young men abroad, and keeps their eyes on the ball.

Michael Atherton, the captain, and John Barclay, the tour manager, think otherwise and have asked their cricketers not to bring camp-followers with them this winter. He argues that a team plays better without domestic distractions and that on last year's disastrous tour of South Africa, the accompanying families were almost as numerous as the camp-followers of Wellington's army.

So far the case seems to be going against the authorities. The uxoriously correct umpire's finger has been firmly raised against them. Sportsmen these days are meant to be rounded human beings with contracts to advertise beer, not single-minded gladiators. Married ones sometimes have to break the tour in order to fly back for family alarms and occasions. In any case it is impossible to ban wives in these days of easy travel, high earnings and individual freedom even for cricketers.

It would be reactionary to relegate wives to their old role on the boundary and in the tea tent. Touring with wives even has precedents. W. G. Grace took his new wife on his tour of Australia as early as 1873 on what became known as the "honeymoon tour". The former Duke of Norfolk took his daughters on an MCC tour of Australia: they were known to players as the Norfolk Broads.

And yet the old monastic rules had advantages. As Harold Pinter once put it: "everyone knows which comes first when it's a question of cricket or sex — all discerning people recognise that". A successful team needs to bond in brotherhood. Test teams once steamed away for six months to represent their country, like an army off to war. They often won. Today they fly away on too frequent tours. And England last won a major tour ten years ago.

A judgment of Solomon (Joe Solomon, the West Indies cricketer whose throw ran out the last Australian in the first, tied Test) would be to discourage camp-followers from touring. Their fares would be paid out only if there was a victory to celebrate at the end.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Pressure for intervention in Zaire

From Mr Richard Parsons

Sir, The Government is reported as having responded to President Chirac's call for a multinational force to be sent to Central Africa by acknowledging his suggestion to be an "important" proposal; but at the same time it is expressing reluctance to get involved in a part of Africa "where Britain has hardly any interests" (report, earlier editions, November 6).

True we conduct little trade in the region and there are no large oil deposits for us to worry about, but have we really reached the stage where humanitarian concerns alone cannot motivate policy?

The long-term solution to this crisis has to be political and diplomatic. In the short term we must save lives. The British Government should launch an initiative to mobilise a pan-European force with the very precise brief to establish safe havens for refugees. Once this is achieved, all development aid (as opposed to relief aid) to the region should be put on immediate hold: trade sanctions should be threatened and, if necessary, imposed until regional politicians agree a formula for bringing this horror to an end.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD PARSONS,
Swallowdale,
Priston, Bath, Somerset.
November 6.

From Mr John Rayner

Sir, Once again we are being urged to commit military forces to a peacekeeping role. One assumes that most of our service personnel enrolled in the belief that if their lives were to be put at risk it would be while serving the interests of their country.

If we send military units to perilous situations in which this country has little interest, should not those units be formed entirely from volunteers?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN RAYNER,
29 Norval Road,
North Wembley, Middlesex.
November 7.

From Mr Alan Forward

Sir, Mr John Snodgrass (letter, November 5) supports intervention in Zaire, even though there would be a risk of it being "denounced as interference in internal affairs, if not neo-colonialism, and no Western country would happily accept the odium of pressing it".

This might once have been true, but there is now an accurate appreciation that British colonialism brought an era of peace, security and development, both economic and political, to large parts of Africa. There were mistakes, not least the accelerated speed with which we left.

I suggest that there would not be any odium if the British Government pressed for international intervention. In Uganda 300,000 people were killed while we turned our backs during the Amin and Obote regimes. We must now reduce the risk to far greater numbers of people in Zaire, Rwanda and Burundi.

Yours sincerely,
ALAN FORWARD
(Private Secretary to
Sir Walter Coutts,
last Governor of Uganda, 1962),
The Lindens, Poyntington, Dorset.
November 5.

From Mr A. J. P. Hinton

Sir, I take exception to the fatalism advanced by Professor Clapham (letter, November 5) and his confidence in "the emergence of effective domestic regimes which are capable of governing responsibly".

The breakdown of peacekeeping and humanitarian efforts in Somalia, and the failure of the international community to find workable solutions to the problems of Rwanda (and so far Zaire), highlight just how much more needs to be done, and how flawed previously half-hearted or misguided attempts have been, rather than providing justification for continued laisser faire.

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW HINTON,
4 Lone Pine Way, Ferndown, Dorset.
November 5.

History and the language of Ireland

From Dr Robert I. Frost

Sir, Mr Gerry Adams (letter, November 6) is quite right to attack the tone of your reflections on the position of the Irish language: but it is a pity that his familiarity with the history of his own country is even more superficial than that which he attributes to you.

It was not an English Government but an Irish Parliament, albeit a Protestant one, which passed the anti-Catholic Penal Laws after the defeat of the Jacobite forces in the early 1690s; it was thus an Irish Parliament, against the wishes of the English Government, which overturned the relatively generous terms (given the circumstances) accorded the defeated Irish Jacobites in the 1691 Treaty of Limerick.

Although the Penal Laws undoubtedly had deleterious consequences for Irish Catholics, particularly with regard to land ownership, it is to be doubted whether they had any serious effect on the position of the Irish language: the vast majority of Irish speakers would never have had any "formal education" in the Irish tongue, regardless of the penal code.

In any case, the religious and cultural provisions of the code were but weakly enforced and were progressively dismantled, largely by the same Protestant Irish Parliament, between 1772 and 1829.

It is high time that all sides in the Irish peace process turned their attention to the future, rather than peddling their highly selective views of the past. The main problem is not the "medieval, colonial mindset" of the British Government — whatever that historically illiterate phrase might mean — but, as it has been since at least the 17th century, the acute difficulty of reconciling two, if not three, different Irish cultural traditions.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT I. FROST,
King's College London,
Department of History, Strand, WC2.
November 6.

From Mr D. Barton

Sir, Mr Adams is right in at least one respect: it is churlish and unwise to mock other people's languages. It is also unwise to judge distant historical events from a selective and partisan late 20th-century perspective.

The Welsh, Scottish and Irish languages were all discriminated against or banned by the governments of the day, and we may fairly assume an underlying cultural arrogance at the time. But there was also a positive philanthropic component — condescending perhaps, but valid. How could the Welsh, Scots and Irish effectively seek employment, betterment, admission to the universities and so on in the wider kingdom without knowledge of the dominant language?

The compulsion may seem hard in retrospect, but in the days before free obligatory primary education, a laisser faire policy would have benefited only the ambitious and prosperous. Compulsory English opened the door to all, and — inter alia — gave us the giants of Irish literature.

Yours,
D. BARTON,
Christopher's,
Powntley Copse, Alton, Hampshire.
November 6.

From Mr Russell McCormick

Sir, It seems to me that the English were doing the Irish a favour by trying to eliminate the speaking of the Irish language.

I learnt Irish at school in Ireland and, like most attempts to create a culture by imposing a language, it was a complete waste of time and money. What a pity not to learn something useful, like German, Italian, or Spanish. Mr de Valera used to say, "*gan teanga gan tir*", without a language, without a country: what romantic and dangerous nonsense.

English is the world language and most foreigners rightly spend a lot of time and money learning it, not learning a dead language such as Irish.

Yours sincerely,
R. C. McCORMICK,
17 River Green,
Hamble, Hampshire.
November 7.

Firework risks

From Mr P. G. Richards, FRCS

Sir, The British Medical Association has just released a video on the dangers of boxing. At about the same time I was involved in the treatment of a man killed by a firework: one of two who died this week (report, November 4).

Both boxing and fireworks are activities which, in the street, would be considered criminal acts, ie, fighting and causing explosions. They are, however, harnessed for public entertainment by willing participants, despite known dangers. A major difference, however, is that boxing is an extremely well regulated sport which lays great emphasis on medical screening and care of its participants. It also kills and injures far fewer people than fireworks.

Perhaps the BMA should be making an effort to get fireworks banned. Alternatively, might it not accept that there are certain hazardous occupations which some people are prepared to undertake, even if it may offend some elements of the BMA.

In overall health terms both fireworks and boxing have a tiny effect and perhaps the BMA should really turn its attention to highlighting some of the more pressing problems of healthcare such as alcohol, cigarettes and the inequalities in health between rich and poor.

Yours faithfully,
PETER RICHARDS
(Consultant neurosurgeon),
The Radcliffe Infirmary,
Woodstock Road, Oxford.
November 4.

From Mr Nigel G. Meek

Sir, Dangerous dogs, boxing, guns, knives and now fireworks. Is there no public figure not so corrupted by ambition, fear of the mob or lust for personal power, who will speak up for the reality of individual liberty over the illusion of collective safety?

Yours faithfully,
N. G. MEEK,
58 Burnt Ash Lane, Bromley, Kent.

Hillsborough claims

From Mr R. J. Walsh

Sir, Police officers are volunteers, well paid and receive good pensions. The four officers who were present at Hillsborough obviously found the experience traumatic, but why should they be paid large sums of money (report, November 1)?

During the Second World War I was on active service for 4½ years in the Royal Armoured Corps. I don't remember anybody being concerned about the effect the war had on me and thousands like me. I wonder what would have happened if we all decided to go sick. Furthermore I didn't volunteer to join the Army.

Yours faithfully,
R. J. WALSH,
88 Deane Drive, Taunton, Somerset.
November 1.

Weekend Money letters, page 43

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Corporate silence on human rights

From the Chairman of Amnesty International UK Business Group

Sir, The November 10 anniversary of Ken Saro-Wiwa's death at the hands of the Nigerian Government will highlight the dilemma of companies which fail to confront the implications for themselves of governmental human rights violations. Corporate silence in the face of world condemnation understandably leads to damage to corporate reputation — damage which is compounded if company operations have contributed, however inadvertently, to such violations.

Companies have traditionally argued that they have neither the power nor the legitimacy to influence such situations; that these are matters of domestic politics or of cultural difference to which no universal standard can apply.

Yet the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to which all members of the United Nations subscribe, enjoins "every individual and every organ of society to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance". This negates conventional corporate arguments that governmental violation of these rights is sacrosanct and that it would be improper to attempt to bring influence to bear.

Amnesty does not advocate disinvestment or boycotts; we urge companies to use their influence for the improvement of the human rights climate in which they find themselves. Companies today have a clear choice: either to develop appropriate policies and practices of their own volition, or be forced to do so by growing exposure and growing public pressure, of which the revulsion of their own employees will be a part.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY CHANDLER,
Chairman,
Amnesty International UK
Business Group,
99-119 Rosebery Avenue, EC1.
November 6.

Society's values

From Mr John Stott

Sir, Mr Michael Brindle, QC (letter, October 26), tells us that "socialism . . . recognises the Christian imperative to love thy neighbour". This is not so. Socialism depends on the coercive power of the State to redistribute wealth.

God has absolutely nothing to do with coercion. He offers his love to us but refuses utterly to coerce us into loving him or our neighbour. We must be free to love him or to reject him. For this freedom we pay a heavy price — we and our fellows are free to sin.

Our freedom can be misused and this misuse can lead to great suffering. But it is clearly God's will that this price is paid, so highly does he value freedom. Coercion is of course of the essence of social justice. It may be necessary, but it has nothing to do with the gospel, and indeed blocks the operation of grace.

Is it not preposterous to suggest that someone else (the State) can do my loving for me?

Yours faithfully,
J. C. STOTT,
Bleak House,
Coppenhall, Stafford.
November 5.

From Mrs J. Hill

Sir, Mr John Drake (letter, October 31) blames government policies of the last 17 years for the sorry state of society today. I believe the deterioration started back in the 1960s and 70s. The "me first" ethos he mentions was present then in the strikes which brought industry almost to its knees: in the weakness of managers who could not or would not face the challenges of the postwar world; in the schools being used for social engineering by trendsetters and the loony Left instead of for the transmission of knowledge.

These were the decades when our institutions, from the monarchy down, were mocked and authority brought into contempt, the media playing its part. The only role models remaining for the young were the pop groups who degraded our language and culture, and by example made it fashionable to take drugs. Children who grew up then are now parents, and are passing on to their children only what they have learnt.

The slow poison of questionable ideas and destructive behaviour has infiltrated society for three decades. A nation does not change overnight.

Yours faithfully,
J. HILL,
29 Harbour View Crescent,
Penzance, Cornwall.

No call for call-up

From Mr Gavin Peck

Sir, Woodrow Wyatt (October 29) regrets that the Armed Forces no longer inculcate "a sense of duty and service" on the population through National Service. May I remind him that National Service was not retained after the Second World War to teach the nation discipline, but to provide badly needed (and cheap) manpower for Germany, Korea and end-of-empire campaigns such as Malaya or Kenya.

That demobbed conscripts' discipline benefited civilian society shows it reflected the prevailing culture, but this was a bonus. Today the Services do not require the additional numbers which would be generated by National Service and their infrastructure would need to be massively increased — training establishments, accommodation — just to cater for male conscripts, to say nothing of females who, presumably in this age of equality, would also be called up.

More importantly, they are not a rehabilitation service to correct the consequences of the country's social policies and we will destroy one of the few remaining institutions which the British respect if we impose this role on them.

Yours faithfully,
GAVIN PECK,
Brown's Farm, Pound Green,
Ramsdell, Basingstoke, Hampshire.

Hail to the chief

From Mr Bernie Grant, MP for Tottenham (Labour)

Sir, Your reporter in "After Bernie" (Diary, November 2) described me as a "tribal chieftain *manqué*".

In view of the obscurity of the word, I checked on its meaning and discovered that it means "would be, potential, unfulfilled". I have to say that your reporter was wrong in describing me in these terms. I would like to inform you that I was made a Chief of the Igbo people in Anambra State in southern Nigeria. I am only awaiting a change in the political situation there in order to complete the formalities. I was also made a Paramount Chief of the Nubian people in Sudan when I visited Sudan in 1994.

I suggest that in future your correspondent checks her or his facts before making such flippant comments at my expense.

Yours faithfully,
BERNIE GRANT,
House of Commons.

Blair's ideology

From the Reverend Clive L. Rawlins

Sir, What nonsense is Ian Thatcher's letter today! Mikhail Gorbachev did not lead "his country to disintegration", but to freedom and opportunity. Even your correspondent's namesake applauded this.

Unhappily, Gorbachev's country was too politically immature to think and act freshly — as Tony Blair and his team are challenging us to do.

Sincerely yours,
CLIVE L. RAWLINS,
37 Willowbrae Road, Edinburgh 8.
November 8.

Singing in the aisles

From Mr Alan Moss

Sir, You report (November 1) the Church of England children's officer as saying: "Apart from a football terrace, there is nowhere else [ie, other than in a place of worship] where you can stand and sing loudly and in a safe environment."

May I point out that one can always join, as I have, one of the thousands of amateur choirs. I thus get the opportunity to stand and sing as loudly (and as softly) as I wish, in the safety of the rehearsal room, the concert hall and even, sometimes, the recording studio.

Yours truly,
A. MOSS,
Heath House, 11 Lyonsdown Road,
Barnet, Hertfordshire.

Bishops' insults

From Professor G. L. Lewis, FBA

Sir, Some years ago, in St John's Senior Common Room, I heard two Anglican bishops (letters, October 28, November 2, 7) antiphonally delivering themselves of a pitiless character-sketch of a third, who was not present. When it was concluded, one of them sighed and said: "Ah well, while there's death there's hope."

Yous faithfully,
GEOFFREY LEWIS,
St Antony's College, Oxford.
November 7.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 8: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this morning arrived at Coventry Station and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Warwickshire (Captain *the Viscount Daventry*).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness drove to St Michael's Hospital, Warwick, and were received by the Chairman of South Warwickshire Mental Health Services NHS Trust (Lady Owen) and the Mayor of Warwick (Councillor Gerald Guest).

The Queen and The Duke of *Edinburgh toured the hospital, meeting* patients and staff.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness afterwards visited Leycester Hospital, Warwick, and were received by the Patron and Chairman of the Governors (the Viscount De L'Isle) and the Master (Captain Dermot Rhodes).

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon visited Warwick Castle and were received by the Chairman of Pearson plc (the Viscount Blakenham) and Mr Michael Jolly (Chief Executive, the Tussauds Group).

Having toured the castle, Her Majesty and His Royal Highness attended a Luncheon given by the *Viscount Blakenham in the State* Dining Room.

The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, later switched on the Fountain in Bancroft Gardens, Stratford-upon-Avon, to mark the Eight Hundredth Anniversary of the Town and was received by the Mayor of Stratford-upon-Avon (Councillor Charles Bates).

Her Majesty afterwards viewed the Guild Chapel and laid a Garland in memory of Stratford-upon-Avon's past citizens.

Meanwhile, His Royal Highness visited King Edward VI Grammar School, Stratford-upon-Avon.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh later walked to the Town Hall, accompanied by the Mayor of Stratford-upon-Avon, and attended a Special Council Meeting.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness subsequently attended a Reception in the Town Hall.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Trustee, this evening attended a Meeting of The Prince Philip Trust Fund for the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, followed by Dinner, in the Norman Tower, Windsor Castle.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 8: The Prince of Wales this morning visited Medeo Earth Dam and the Central State Museum of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

His Royal Highness later visited the British Council offices in order to mark the first anniversary of the British Council's work in Kazakhstan.

The Prince of Wales afterwards attended a Luncheon given by Her Majesty's Ambassador for members of the British community and European Union and Commonwealth Ambassadors.

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited the Kazakh State Academy of Architecture and Construction, inaugurated the Masters Course in Environmental Management and at*tended an exhibition of the works of* students of the faculty of Architecture.

The Prince of Wales afterwards laid a wreath at the War Memorial in Almaty Central Park and visited the Holy Cathedral of the Ascension.

His Royal Highness this evening attended a Dinner given by President Nazarbaev.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 8: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President, The Guide Association, this afternoon visited members of the Newcastle upon Tyne, the Northumberland and the North Tyneside Guide Counties at the Civic Hall, Wallsend.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of *Tyne and Wear (Colonel Sir Ralph* Carr-Ellison).

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon subsequently opened Rothbury House, the Royal Air Force Association and Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund Convalescent Home at Rothbury.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Northumberland (The Viscount Ridley, KG).

YORK HOUSE
November 8: The Duke of Kent, President, this afternoon attended an Action Japan Committee meeting and lunch, at the Berkeley Hotel, Wilton Place, London SW1.

Royal engagements

TODAY:
The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance in the Albert Hall at 7.10. The Duke of York, *the Princess Royal*, the Duke of Kent and Princess Alexandra will attend at 7.00.

The Princess Royal, as Patron of the Scottish Rugby Union, will attend the Scotland v Australia International rugby match at Murrayfield at 3.00.

TOMORROW:
The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend the Remembrance Day service at the Cenotaph at 11.00. The Duke of York, the Princess Royal and Princess Alexandra will also attend.

Prince Edward, as Patron of the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain, will attend the 40th anniversary gala performance at the Piccadilly Theatre at 7.55. He will attend a supper party at the Royal Garden Hotel afterwards.

Princess Margaret will attend the Armistice Day parade and a service for Remembrance Day at Stannington Church, Northumberland, at 10.45.

Princess Alexandra, as Patron of Leeds Castle Foundation, will attend a 21st anniversary dinner to be given by the trustees at Leeds Castle, Maidstone, at 8.00.

Memorial service

Dr Kevin Keohane
A memorial celebration for the life of Dr Kevin Keohane, a former Rector of the Roehampton Institute, was held yesterday in St George's Cathedral, Southwark. The Most Rev Michael Bowen, Archbishop of Southwark, officiated, assisted by Father Michael Holman who read the lesson.

Professor Paul Black of King's College, London, Father Hugh Bridge of the Myrrh Training Agency, Professor Bryan Coles of Imperial College, Sister Armida Veglio of the Ursuline Convent, Wimbledon, and Dr Peter Weston of the Roehampton Institute, paid tribute.

The Right Rev Howard Tripp, Auxiliary Bishop and Vicar General in Southwark, was robed and in the Sanctuary. Among others present were:

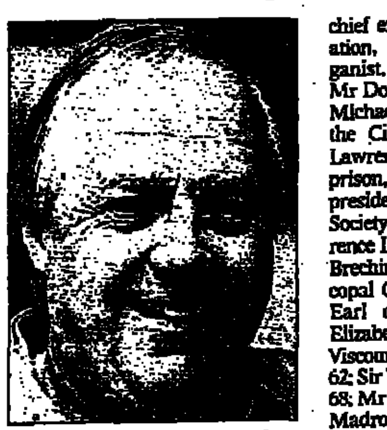
Mrs Keohane (widow), Dr Stephen Keohane (son), *Dr Kate Keohane*, Mrs Hilary Harrison and Mrs Elizabeth Ralph (daughters), Mr Desmond Keohane (brother), Mr John Keohane, Mr Jeremy Keohane and other members of the family.

Mr Anthony Tomei (director, Nuffield Foundation) with Mr Richard Marshall, Mrs Irene Hall, Sir John Maddox, Sir Brian Young and other past and present members of the foundation; and representatives of Surrey University, Southampton University, *Roehampton Institute, King's* College London, Ditchley Foundation, Jesuit Missions, Sisters of Notre Dame, London, Ursuline Provincialate, Ilford, Overseas Development Agency, St Francis Xavier Sixth Form College, Wandsworth, St Charles' Catholic Sixth Form College, Borden Grammar School, Sittingbourne, Heythrop College, Kensington, Wimbledon College, Whitelands College, Wimbledon, Southlands College, Wimbledon, Digby Stuart College, *Roehampton, Merton Local Education* Authority, the Catholic Education Service, Taylor and Francis Publishers, Falmer Press, Addison Wesley Longman Publishers and Heinemann Educational Books with many other friends and colleagues.

Cruse Bereavement Care

Sir Sigmund Sternberg, President of the Friends of Cruse, was presented with a Cruse Bereavement Care award at Belgrave Square on Wednesday.

Weekend birthdays



Tony Slattery, writer and actor, is 37 today; Sir Tim Rice, lyricist and broadcaster, will be 52 tomorrow

TODAY
The Right Rev James Adams, 81; Mr Kenneth Ashton, trade unionist, 71; Mr David Barrie, director, National Art Collections Fund, 43; Mr Victor Blank, chairman, Charterhouse Bank, 54; Lord Brabourne, 72; Mr David Constant, cricket umpire, 55; Mr Bryan Davies, MP, 57; Mr George Duncan, chairman, ASW Holdings, 63; Sir Robin Gillett, former Lord Mayor of London, 71; Mr Ronald Harwood, playwright, 62; Miss Katharine Hepburn, actress, 87; Mr Anthony Holland, former President, Law Society, 58; Mr Alistair Horne, author, 71; Professor I.A. Hughes, paediatrician, 52; Mr Hugh Jenkins, chief executive, Prudential Portfolio Managers, 63; Mr Hugh Leonard, playwright, 70; Dame Kathleen Raven, former chief nursing officer, DHSS, 86; Miss Stella Richman, television producer, 74; Mr Donald Trelford, former Editor, *The Observer*, 59; Mrs Dessa Trevisan, journalist, 72; Miss Marina Warner, writer and critic, 50; Viscount Weir, 63; Mr Tom Weiskopf, golfer, 54; Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale, 61.

TOMORROW
Mr A.G. Apley, former director, Department of Orthopaedics, St Thomas' Hospital, 82; Sir Peter Baldwin, civil servant, 74; Mr Robert Carrier, cookery writer and broadcaster, 73; Dame Frances Coulshed, former director, WRAC, 92; Mr Frank Durr, racehorse trainer, 70; Mr Nigel Evans, MP, 39; Mr Roger Farrance, former chief executive, Electricity Association, 63; Mr David Flood, organist, Canterbury Cathedral, 41; Mr Don Henderson, actor, 64; Mr Michael Hinton, former Sheriff of the City of London, 62; Mr J. Lawrence, Governor, Dartmoor prison, 46; Sir Giles Loder, a vice-president, Royal Horticultural Society, 82; the Right Rev Lawrence Luscombe, former Bishop of Brechin and Primus of the Episcopal Church in Scotland, 72; the Earl of Radnor, 69; Professor Elizabeth Robson, geneticist, 68; Viscount Runciman of Doxford, 62; Sir William Ryrie, civil servant, 68; Mr Roy Scheider, actor, 61; Mr Madron Seligman, former MEP, 78; Sir David Serpell, civil servant, 85; Sir Alfred Sherman, co-founder, Centre for Policy Studies, 77; Mrs Ann Spokes Symonds, patron, Age Concern *England*, 71; Sir William Staveley, former chairman, North Thames Regional Health Authority, 68; Mrs Elizabeth Toulson, chairman, WRVS, 48.

Eton College

A private dinner was held on Wednesday in Election Hall, Eton College, in honour of Mr J.S.B. Peake who became a House Master 25 years ago. More than 60 old boys celebrated the anniversary with Mr Peake, his wife Sue, and his Dame, Toni Kotch. Mr Guy Monson was in the chair. Mr Tim de Lisle made the toast and Mr Peake responded.

Luncheon

ABC Club
Mr Christopher Rawson presided at the annual luncheon of the ABC Club held yesterday at Watermen's Hall. Among those present were:

Sir Charles Alexander, Mr N Burston, Mr R Charvet, Mr A Hart, Mr R Hedderwick, Mr M Hinton, Mr B Toye and Mr N Young.

Service dinners

RN Medical Services and Wardmaster Officers
Surgeon Rear-Admiral Alexander Craig, Medical Director General (Navy), was the principal guest at the annual dinner given by past and present RN Medical Services and Wardmaster Officers last night at the Institute of Naval Medicine, Gosport. Commander F. Reed presided.

The Royal Regiment of Wales
Brigadier C.J. Lee, Deputy Colonel of The Royal Regiment of Wales (24th/41st Foot), presided at the annual dinner held last night at The Park Hotel, Cardiff.

***Sultan's Armed Forces* Association**
The Ambassador of Oman was present at the annual dinner of the Sultan's Armed Forces Association held yesterday at the RAF Club, Piccadilly. Colonel Nigel Knocker presided. *Sir Terence Clark* and the Right Rev Michael Mann were among the guests.

HQ No 1 Group RAF
Air Vice-Marshal J.R. Day, Air Officer Commanding No 1 Group RAF, was the host at a Headquarters No 1 Group ladies guest night dinner held last night at RAF High Wycombe. Wing Commander A.V.B. Hawken presided.

RAF Regiment Officers' Dinner Club
Air Marshal G.A. Robertson, Chief of Staff RAF Strike Command, was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the RAF Regiment Officers' Dinner Club held last night at Winterbourne Gunner. Group Captain R.C. Moore presided. Air Commodore I.W.P. McNeil, Commandant General RAF Regiment, also spoke.

Royal Military Police and Provost Officers
Lieutenant-General C.B.Q. Wallace, Colonel Commandant, Royal Military Police, presided at the annual reunion dinner of past and present Royal Military Police and other Provost Officers held last night in Chichester.

Brigadier I.W. Fulton, Provost Marshal (Army), and Brigadier N.C. Allen, chairman, RMP Association, were among those present.

Old Buckenham Hall

The Governors of Old Buckenham Hall School, Brettenham, Suffolk are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Martin Ives as Headmaster to succeed Mr Hugh Cocke, who has been appointed Headmaster of Brambletye, Sussex. Mr Ives is currently Head of the Lower School, Papplewick, Ascot, and will take up his post in September 1997.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr H.A. Coghill-Smith and Miss L.A. Witt
The engagement is announced between Hugh, only son of Mr and Mrs Alan Coghill-Smith, of Castle Cary, Somerset, and Lucy, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Witt, of Prestwood, Buckinghamshire.

Wing Commander I.L. Morgan and Miss A.R. MacDougall
The engagement is announced between Ian, son of Mr and Mrs Henry Morgan, of South Otterington, North Yorkshire, and Anne, daughter of the late Dr Ivor Anderson MacDougall, OBE, and the late Mrs Rosalie MacDougall, of Wonston, Hampshire.

Mr M. Ridler and Miss C. Hensher
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr John Shaw-Ridler and the late Mrs Iris Ridler, of Saffron Walden, Essex, and Carol, daughter of Mr Stanley Hensher, of Cheltenham, *Gloucestershire, and Mrs* Catherine Hobbs, of Birchover, Derbyshire.

Mr J.S. Fairey and Mrs B.A. Parker
The engagement is announced between Mr John Fairey, of Bossington House, Houghton, Hampshire, and Mrs Beverley Parker, of Leigh Barton, Canterbury, Kent.

Mr C.P.N. Kibble and Miss A. Hope
The engagement is announced between Christopher, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Edward Kibble, of Eastbourne, Sussex, and Amanda, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Bryan Hope, of Llangwm, Monmouthshire.

Mr G.P.W. Stainthorpe and Miss H.C. Wicks
The engagement is announced between Guy, younger son of Mr and Mrs Thomas Stainthorpe, of *Trowbridge*, Wiltshire, and Helen, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Clive Wicks, of Pinner, Middlesex.

Mr P.F. Sutton and Miss S.J. Card
The engagement is announced between Peter, twin son of the late Mr and Mrs Frank Sutton, and Susan, younger daughter of the late Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs A.T.T. Card.

Dinners

Cordwainers' Company
Mr Martin Else, Chief Executive of the Royal Free Hospital NHS Trust, and Mr Raymond Blaber, Master of the Curriers' Company, were the guests of honour at a dinner of the Cordwainers' Company held last night at the Law Society's Hall. Mr Timothy Weber-Brown, Master of the Cordwainers' Company, presided and Assistant Dr Rodney Parker also spoke.

During the evening the Master presented the annual awards for the best trained soldier and best recruit to the Officer Commanding, C (City of London Fusiliers) Company, The London Regiment. A new award for excellence was also given to the Principal of the Cordwainers' College for presentation in future years.

The Anchorites
Mr Anthony Cooke, President of the Chamber of Shipping, and Miss S. Cooke were the principal guests at the annual ladies night dinner of the Anchorites held last night at the Café Royal. Captain J. Hall, president, was in the chair.

Anniversaries are on the facing page

Church services tomorrow

Twenty third Sunday after Trinity (Remembrance Sunday)

ST ANDREWS CATHEDRAL, ABERDEEN: 8 HC; 10.15 S Euch, Jackson in G, So they gave their bodies (Aston), Rt Rev M Henley; 6.30 ES, Stanford in G, Greater love (Ireland), The Provost.

ARMAGH CATHEDRAL: 10 HC; 11 Cenotaph Service; 11.30 MP, Call to remembrance O Lord (Farrant), The Dean; 3.15 Choral E, Sumsion in A, Thou wilt keep him (Wesley).

BELFAST CATHEDRAL: 10 HC; 11 S Euch, Darke in F, And I saw a new heaven (Bainton); 3.30 Choral E, Dyson in F, Greater love (Ireland).

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP; 9.15 HC; 10.50 Choral Euch & Act of Remembrance, Blair in G, Pie Jesu (Fauré), There is an old belief (Parry), Prof D Turner; 4 Choral E, Noble in A (No. 1), Greater love (Ireland).

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 Remembrance Day, Earth does not hold (Thiman), The Provost; 10.30 Euch, Ireland in C, Canon D Galilee; 4 Choral E, The Short Service (Gibbons), And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), Canon K Parfitt.

BRECON CATHEDRAL: 8 Holy Euch; 11 Remembrance Service, God be in my head (Rutter); 3.30 E, The Third Service (Knott), O pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Howells).

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M; 10.45 Remembrance Service, Valiant for truth (Vaughan Williams), We will remember them (Elgar); 12 S Euch, Canterbury Mass (Piccolo); 3.15 E, Jackson in G, One ever hangs where shelled roads part (Britten); 6.30 Compline, Rev R Symon.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 7.45 M; 8 HC; 10.15 Remembrance Service & Dedication of Book of Remebrance, So they gave their bodies to the Commonwealth, Canon C Hill; 3 E; 6.30 S Euch, Darke in F, Justorum animae (Stanford).

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: *8 HC, Rev I* Moody; 9.30 Euch & Parade, Rev I Moody; 10.55 Choral M & Act of Remembrance, Elgar in F, So they gave their bodies (Aston); 6 Choral E, Fourth Service (Batten), Greater Love (Ireland), Rev J Jones.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Remembrance Service, Canon J Newcome; 11.30 Solemn Requiem, Requiem Mass (Fauré); 3.30 Choral E, Justorum animae (Stanford); 6.30 Evening, Canon J Newcome.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, *Stanford in A, So they gave their bodies (Aston)*, The Dean; 11 S Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd), The Russian Contakion for the Departed, The Chancellor; 3.30 E, Roothem in E minor, Greater Love (Ireland).

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, Oxford: 8 HC; 10 M & Sermon, Vaughan Williams in G, Canon Jeffery; 11.15 S Euch, Requiem (Fauré), Canon Peirce; 6 E & College Prayer, Alternative Canticles (Purcell), Man that is born of a woman (Purcell).

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 *Communion*: 10.30 Euch, Missa Brevis (Britten), In paradisum (Fauré), Canon P Oestreicher; 3 German Lutherans; 5.30 EP; 7 Fauré Requiem.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Canon D Brown; 9 MP; 10.15 Remembrance Service, My soul there is a country (Parry), Canon M Perry; 11.30 HC, Jackson in G, O taste and see (Vaughan Williams), The Dean; 3.30 E, Nunc dimittis, I love the Lord (Harvey).

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch; 3.45 E.

EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Ireland in C, Beati quorum via (Stanford); 11.30 Remembrance Service, They shall grow not old (Douglas Guest), The souls of the righteous (Marchant), The Bishop of Sherborne; 3 E, Walmisley in D minor, Blessed are they that mourn (Brahms); 6.30 E, So they gave their bodies (Aston), The Treasurer.

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL: 8, 12.15 HC; 10.15 Euch, Little Organ Mass (Haydn), Canon N Heavisides; 3 Remembrance Service, Bring us O Lord God (Harris), Rev J Morrison.

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Rev Sir J Alleyne; 9.45 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Ave verum (Elgar), Canon J Schofield, The Dean; 10.55 M, Te Deum in G (Vaughan Williams), There is an old belief (Parry), The Bishop; 6.30 E, Second Service (Leighton), Agnus Dei (War Requiem) (Britten), Rev J Hughman.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.45 Remembrance Service, Turn back O man (Holst), Canon J Clarke; 11.45 HC; 4 Choral E, Sumsion in G, Hic est Martinus (Handl), The Chancellor.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.55 *Remembrance Service, My soul there is a* country (Parry), Contakion of the Departed, The Archdeacon of Stoke; 11.15 HC; 3.30 E, Blair in B minor, Greater love hath no man (Ireland).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 7.45 Litany; 8, 12.30 HC; 9.00 S Euch, Missa de Angelis, In paradisum (Fauré); 10.30 Remembrance Service, For the fallen (Blatchly), Ven R Turner; 3 Service for 50th Anniversary of Mencap, Magnificat in C (Kelly), Rev A Hayday; 4.30 EP.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 MP; 9 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Stanford in C and F, Justorum animae (Stanford), Canon J Atherton; 6.30 E, Greater love (Ireland), Canon J Atherton.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 HC, The Archdeacon of Northumberland; 9.30 S Euch, Hymn to the cherubim (Rachumannov); 6 Choral E, Whatever I do believe (Ritchie), Dyson in D, In paradisum (Fauré).

NORWICH CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.15 Family Communion; 10 S Euch, Darke in A minor, I will lift up (Mawby), Rev S Betts; 11.30 Remembrance Service, Greater Love (Ireland), Canon P Oliver; 3.30 E, Norwich Service (Patterson), *Save us O Lord (Bairstow)*, Canon R Hanmer; 6.30 Healing & Reconciliation, Canon M Perham.

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL: 7.45 M; 8.15 HC; 9 Euch, Ireland in C, So they gave their bodies (Aston), Mr K Mackay; 10.45 Remembrance Service, For the fallen (Blatchly), And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), The Bishop; 3.30 E, Sumsion in G, He that hath my commandments (Mundy).

RIPON CATHEDRAL: 8 Euch, The Dean; 8.30 M; 9.30 Parish Euch, Darke in E, Canon P *Marshall; 10.50 Remembrance Service*; 12.30 Euch, Canon E Eason; 5.30 E, Agnus Dei (War Requiem) (Britten), Canon K Punshon.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Mass for 4 voices (Byrd), Rev G Kirk; 10.55 Remebrance Service, Greater love (Ireland), Rev C Paget; 3.15 E & Installation, Bairstow in D, Though I speak (Bairstow); 6.30 Requiem.

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Rev A Philp; 9.15 Memorial Service; 10 Requiem for Remembrance, Stanford in G, Justorum animae in manu Dei sunt (Stanford), Canon D Durston; 11.30 Civic Service; 3 E, Rubbra in A flat, Lord thou hast been our refuge (Vaughan Williams).

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd), For the fallen (Guest), Canon T Page; 4.30 Hands On; 6.30 E & Sermon, Howells in G, And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), Cpt A Turner; 8 Christ in Quiet

SOUTHWELL MINSTER: 7.30 M & *Litany*; 8 HC; 9.30 Parish Communion, The Vicar Choral; 10.55 S Euch, Greater love (Ireland), The Provost; 3.15 E, The Gloucester Service (Howells), Lord thou hast been our refuge (Vaughan Williams).

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M; 10 S Euch, Sumsion in F, God be in my head (Davies), The Treasurer; 3 Royal British Legion Remembrance, The Treasurer; 6 E, Dyson in F, Take him earth for cherishing (Howells), The Chancellor.

WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Canon G Nairn-Briggs; 9.15 Parish Communion, The Song of the Tree of Life (Vaughan Williams), The Provost; 10.55 Solemn Euch, Requiem (Duruflé), Canon I Knox; 4 E, Moeran in D, And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), Canon G Nairn-Briggs.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Mozart), Ave verum corpus (Mozart), Very Rev G Farran; 11.30 M, Ireland in F, *Lacrymosa dies illa* (Mozart); 3 E, The Chichester Service (Archer), Greater love hath no man (Ireland), Preb R Packer.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10.30 Remembrance Service, The Kontakion of the Dead, Justorum animae (Byrd), For the fallen (Guest); 3 E, Stanford in C, And I saw a new *heaven (Bainton), Canon D Gray; 5.45 Recital*; 6.30 E, Rev E James.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 Remembrance Service, In paradisum (from the Requiem) (Duruflé), Adagio in E (Bridge); 11.30 Euch, Requiem (Fauré), Solemn Prelude (for the fallen) (Elgar); 3.30 E, Blair in B minor, Greater love hath no man (Ireland).

YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Darke in F, Rev E Norman; 11.30 M, Sumsion in G; 12.30 Remembrance Service, Rev D Bailey; 4 E, Gloucester Service (Howells), Take him earth for cherishing (Howells), Rev P Ferguson.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 10.50 Remembrance Service, Greater Love (Ireland), National Anthems, Very Rev K Goulstone; 3.30 EP.

ST DAVIDS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 Cymun Bendigaid, Y Canon; 9.30 Parish Euch, The Minor Canon; 11.15 Remembrance Service, Pie Jesu (Fauré), Greater love (Ireland), Rev N Crossey; 6 Choral E, Bairstow in D, If ye love me (Tallis), The Dean.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10, 6 LM; 11 Remembrance Service; 11.30 Solemn Mass, Requiem (Fauré), Greater love hath no man (Ireland), Fr J Cronin.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, *Edinburgh*: 8 Morning HC, The Minister; 10 Morning, Missa Douce memoire (Lassus), The Minister; 11.30 Morning, Remembrance Day, Greater Love (Ireland), The Minister; St Giles at Six; 8 Evening, Rev K Watson.

ST MACHAR'S CATHEDRAL, Old Aberdeen: Remembrance Sunday; 10.45 Morning, Rev R Frazer, Justorum animae (Byrd), Greater love hath no man (Ireland); 6 Evening, Rev R Frazer.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC; 10.30 M & Commemoration of the Fallen, Te Deum (Vaughan Williams in G), Jubilate (Stanford in C), Rev M Saward; 2.30 E; 3.15 *S* Euch of Requiem for the Fallen, Messe de Requiem (Duruflé), Rev V Sinton.

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL, Ennismore Gardens, London, SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy, Kievan and traditional polyphony, Diocesan Bishop Met. Anthony.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9 Communion Service; 10.55 Remembrance *Sunday, Rev R Bewes; 6.30 Rev S Chalke*.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa pro defunctis (Anerio), De profundis (Palestrina).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC; 10 Childrens; 10.55 Remembrance Service, Greater love hath no man (Ireland), *Rt Rev* J Waine; 12.15 HC; 6 E, Graf K von Lehndorf.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 10.45 Remembrance Service, Rev S Hood; 6.30 Rev J McMahon

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, *SW7*: 9 ASB HC, Mr J Jennings; *11* Remembrance Service, Mr K Costa; 5, 7 Informal Service, Rev S Millar.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Missa pro defunctis (Lobo), Hei mihi Domine (Guerero); 12.30, 4.30, 7 Mass; 3.30 V & B, Exaltabo te (Croce).

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH, Iverna Gdns, W8: 11 Holy Mass, Archbishop Y Gizirian.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: Remembrance Service; 9.45 HC; 10.50 *Morning*, General Paul Roder.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: Remembrance Service: 10.45, 6.30 Rev Dr P Graves.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral HC, Rev P Schmiege; 9 Lutheran Choral Vespers, Rev P Schmiege.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 10.55 M, Stanford in C, When David heard (Weelkes), The Rector; 6.30 Requiem Euch (Fauré), The Rector.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: Remembrance Service; 11 Choral M & Euch, Requiem (Fauré), Canon J Oates; 6.30 Choral E, Brewer in D, Excerpts from the Requiem (Duruflé), Canon J Oates.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 10.50 Remembrance Service, Lacrimosa (Mozart), Russian Contakion, Rev P Bishop; 12.30 HC.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 10.45 Remembrance Service, Rev W Cairns; 3 London Scottish Parade Service, Rev W Cairns; 6.30 Rev C MacLeod.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 9 Mass; 11 Sung Requiem Mass, Requiem (Fauré).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Stanford in A, The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Garlickhythe, EC4: 10.30 Remembrance Service, Robin Sherlock.

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 Euch; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Willis), My soul (Parry), Rev A Meldrum; 6 E, Ireland in F, Greater Love (Ireland).

ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Rev S Cathie; 5.45 EP.

ST JOHN'S, Stratford E15: 11 Family, Solemn *Melody (Davis), Rev D Richards; 6.30* Confirmation, March Pontificale (Widor), The Bishop of Barking.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 MP & Act of Remembrance, There is an old belief (Parry), Rev G Beauchamp; 6.30 Choral E, When David heard (Weelkes), Rev G Beauchamp.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 Family Communion; 11 S Euch, Ireland in C, Greater Love (Ireland), Rev T Jones.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 10 M; 10.55 Act of Remembrance & Euch, The *Kontakion of the Dead, Missa O quam* gloriosum (Victoria), Faire is the heaven (Harris), Perhaps in hope (Britten), Rev R Holloway.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch, Rev G Brown; 11.30 Visitors, Rev A Hurst; 2.45 Chinese, Rev G Lee; 5 Choral E; 6.30 Evening.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensington W8: 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 Parish Euch; 11.15 Choral M; 6.30 E, Fr Gelli.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 10, 7 LM; 11 *HM, Requiem (Duruflé), Canon Lord* Pilkington; 6 Solemn E & B.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Euch, Mass for a saints' day (Jackson), Faire is the heaven (Harris), Rev S Webster; 6 *Prayer & Meditation*.

ST MICHAEL'S, Cornhill, EC3: Remembrance: 11 Euch of Requiem, Fr G Morgan

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 S Euch, Collegium Regale (Howells), Greater love hath no man (Ireland), Fr A Chidwick.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC, Rev P Abram; 10.55 M & Sermon, Collegium Regale (Howells), They are at rest (Elgar), Rev P Abram.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St. James's Palace: Remembrance Sunday: no mid-morning service.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC (1662); 10.55 Act of Remembrance & M, Collegium Regale (Howells), Turn back O man (Holst); 3.30 E, Noble in B *minor*, Greater love (Ireland).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, *South Audley Street*, W1: 8.15 HC; 10.55 S Euch, Requiem (Fauré), Rev S Hobbs.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 10.50 Remembrance, Te Deum in C, Set me as a seal (Walton), The Chaplain; 12.30 HC.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11 The Silence followed by MP, Te Deum Laudamus (Ireland in F), Jubilate Deo (Ireland in F), The Master.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 10.55 M, Greater love hath no man (Ireland), *Make me a channel of thy peace (arr* Pearmain), Band of the Blues & Royals, Rev L Bryan; 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 10.50 Act of Remembrance & S Euch, Kontakion for the departed (Kiev Melody), Rev C French.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

I set my hope of your deliverance on the Eternal; the Holy One, your everlasting Saviour, has filled me with joy for the mercy soon to be granted to you. Baruch 4 : 22

BIRTHS

BLISS - On October 30th at The Portland Hospital, London, to Liz (Tout) and Nicholas, twins, Luke and Sarah, a brother and sister for Marcus.

DERROUGH - On 6th November, to Catherine (née Coventry-Pauwels) and Karim, a son, Gregoire Malik Digby.

JUNIOR - On November 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Ana Sima Kocevska and Tose, a beautiful son, Kocevski Junior.

KEELING - On 6th November, to Vanessa, wife of Paul, a son, Zak Michael, a brother to Fred and Jasper.

KENT - On November 4th, to Karen and Jeremy, a son, George Henry Alexander.

KWOK - On October 31st at The *Portland Hospital, to* Nicolette and Frederick, a beautiful son, Philip Daping, a brother for Dominic.

LLOYD GENEST - On November 4th 1996, at The Portland Hospital, to Rhys and Severine, a beautiful daughter, Anaïs Charlotte Juliette.

NORRINGTON - On Wednesday 6th November 1996, to Belinda and Richard, a son, Max Tobias, a brother for Sam.

TROLLOPE-BELLEW - On November 6th 1996, to Annabel (née Collier), wife of Anthony, a daughter.

VIDENOVA-BLANCHARD - On November 8th at Matilda Hospital, Hong Kong, to Lucia (née Videnova) and Giles, a daughter, Sofia Francesca.

WARDLAW - On 4th November 1996 in California, to Louise (née Maclean) and Charles, a daughter, Ambella Mary, a sister for Tryphena.

YOUNG - On October 30th at The Portland Hospital, to Deborah and Mike, a son, Timothy Adams, a brother for Matthew, Ben and Patrick.

DEATHS

ADSHEAD-GRANT - Captain Donald, in hospital on 31st October, beloved husband of Jill and dearest father of Douglas, William and Edward. Private cremation has already taken place.

BEMROSE - John Frederick Pearson peacefully at Eden Hall Marie Curie Hospice November 5th 1996. Loved husband of Margaret. All enquiries to Cooksey & Son, (0181) 883-4844 to whom, if wished, donations in lieu of flowers should be directed, payable to Eden Hall Marie Curie Hospice.

BROMET - Margaret Cicely on 7th November 1996, aged 94 years. Widow of Tony and much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral Service at All Saints Church, Wighill, Tadcaster, North Yorkshire on Wednesday 13th November at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to The Church Fabric Fund c/o Church Cottage, Wighill.

CAMPBELL - Mary Caroline on November 7th after a short illness. Widow of Major Ian Forbes Campbell. Mother of Colin, Alastair and Caroline. Funeral at St Mary's, Church Road, Barnes, on Friday 15th November at 11 am, followed by private cremation. Flowers to Ashton Mathias, 221 Upper Richmond Road, Putney, London SW15 6SQ.

FOX - On 7th November 1996 peacefully at home The Reverend Canon Denis Fox aged 90 years. Dearly loved husband of Mary. Funeral Service will take place at St Candida and Holy Cross Church, Whitchurch Canonicorum, nr. Bridport, Dorset, on Friday 15th November 1996 at 2 pm. Family flowers only or donations if desired for Christian Aid c/o A.J. Wakely & Sons, 91 East Street, Bridport.

HILL - Margaret Teresa (née Stanton), dearly beloved wife of Johnny and devoted mother of Andrew. As the result of an accident at Namanga, Tanzania, on 2nd November 1996.

HODGSON - Harry Hugh James (Bill) Capt. R.N. ret'd, aged 103, peacefully at Oak Lodge Nursing Home, Chard, Somerset. Dearly loved husband of the late Rosemary, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral Service will take place at St Bartholomew's Parish Church, Crewkerne, on Thursday 14th November at 2.30 pm. Donations if desired for King George's Fund for Sailors c/o A.J. Wakely & Sons, Chapel House, Hermitage Street, Crewkerne, Somerset, tel: (01460) 74547.

LLOYD - Clare Frances peacefully in hospital on November 4th aged 49, beloved *wife of Michael*, mother of Oliver and Howard. Funeral 2 pm November 12th Christchurch, Lowestoft. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to James Paget Hospital Scanner Appeal c/o Critoph & Crowe Funeral Directors, Lorne Park Road, Lowestoft.

LOUGHRAN - (Nancy Mrs). Died suddenly but peacefully on November 3rd 1996 at 7.15 am, Nancy, aged 69 years, of Bowdon, Cheshire, is remembered with love and affection by her sons Angus and Charles, also by Lisa and all her many friends with lots of love. Service at St Mary's Church Bowdon on Monday November 11th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only, donations, to be distributed amongst the many charities in which she was involved, payable to The Mrs. Nancy Loughran Charities Fund, may be sent to NatWest, Altrincham, Sort Code 51-61-11, account number 23915102, or to Arthur Gresty, 305 Manchester Road, Altrincham, WA14 5PH, tel: (0161) 973 1515.

OSCROFT - Jean (née Garlick) aged 65, on November 7th, at home after a long illness. Devoted and very much loved wife, mother, sister, grannie and friend. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to NSPCC c/o J & R Killick, Funeral Directors, 112 High Street, West Wickham BR4 0ND.

PEASE - On 5th November 1996 peacefully at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Susan Pease aged 65 years, wife of Sebastian Pease, daughter of the late Sir Frank and Lady Spickernell. Memorial Service to be announced. Donations to PLAN International (U.K.), Charity 276035 and enquiries to Camp Hopson, F/D, Newbury, RG14 1DN, tel: (01635) 522210.

THOMAS - Iris Muriel (née Davey), beloved wife of Hedley and much loved mother of Gillian and Brian and grandmother of Sophie and Nicky. Died peacefully on 7th November 1996 after a long battle against Huntington's Disease. Funeral Service at Poole Crematorium on 13th November at 1 pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Huntington's Disease Association c/o Lesley Shand Funeral Service, 184 Wareham Road, Corfe Mullen, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 3LL.

VEILLARD - Nicole on November 6th aged 43, beloved daughter of Sybil Frances and the late John Veillard, sister of Shân. November 18th 3 pm, Streatham Vale Crematorium. Donations to nominated charity.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

LAND - A Memorial Service for Anneke Land will be held at St George's Church, Hanover Square, London W1 at 12 noon on Tuesday 26th November.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

CORBETT - Hugh Andrew. November 9th 1993. Remembered with love every day. Jane and Charlie.

LAMONT - Henry Parkyn. Born 9/11/1896 died 23/6/1967. Author of War Wine and Women under the pen name Wilfred St. Mandé. I miss you. Mary.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

OWEN - Jason Matthew Dale, of Penarth. Beloved youngest son of Dale Owen and Maureen Kelly Owen, brother of Justin and Julian and grandson of the late Charles and Evelyn Kelly. Born November 9th 1978, died Cardiff Royal Infirmary from Haemolytic Uraemic Syndrome (H.U.S.), January 17th 1984, aged five years. Priceless, treasured memories of our darling boy on what should be his 18th Birthday. With thanks for all the joy he gave to so many in his short but loving life. During his six weeks in Cardiff Royal Infirmary, as a little boy of barely five, the courage and kindliness he showed during his suffering will be an example for his family and friends forever.

PYEFINCH - Kate Madeleine, died November 9th 1994. In loving memory of Kit, always in my thoughts, Joan.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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TRUSTEE ACTS

ADAMSON, WING COMMANDER ERIC MATON Retired of 13 Averil Grove, Norbury, London SW16 died on 12th May 1996 particulars to BLACK GRAY & CO, 14/15 COLLEGE CRESCENT, LONDON NW3 5LL before 8th January 1997.

CHESLEY, TADEUSZ JOSEPH of 47 Raglan Gardens, Oxhey Park, Hertfordshire died on 29th July 1996 particulars to MATTHEW ARNOLD & BALDWIN Solicitors of 20 STATION ROAD, WATFORD, HERTS WD1 1JE before 10th January 1997.

CLINTON, DAVID CECIL PETER, 3 Mountwood Close, South Croydon, Surrey, died 3 February 1996; particulars to Mrs Geraldine Dymond of Judge Sykes & Harrison, Solicitors of 9 Kingsway, London WC2B 6YF, before 15 January 1997.

CORNELIUS DELAY late of 24 Capstan Way, London, SE16 1HH died on 11 October 1996. Particulars to Anthony Gold, Lerman & Muirhead, Solicitors of New London Bridge House, 25 London Bridge Street, London, SE1 9TW before 10 January 1996.

FREDERICK BRAHMS of 360 East 55th Street, New York, United States of America, Casting Director, died on 23 February 1996 Particulars to Harbottle & Lewis, Hanover House, 14 Hanover Square, London W1R 0BE - Executors Stephen Peter Snyder and Johnnie Ray Goodwin - Claims before 10 January 1997

LEGAL NOTICES

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COMPANY NUMBER 272492
PIER HOUSE RESTAURANTS LIMITED
COMPANY NUMBER 1028406
(ALL IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

On 29 October 1996 the above named companies were placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Anthony Victor Lomas of Price Waterhouse was appointed liquidator by the shareholders. The liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the companies must send details, in writing, of any claim against the companies to the liquidator, at No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL by 03 December 1996 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution. All known creditors have been or will be paid in full.
Date 29 October 1996
AV Lomas
Liquidator

In the Matter of
CA MANAGEMENT LIMITED
and
In the Matter of the Companies Act 1985, section 175

The above-named Company has approved a payment out of capital for the purpose of acquiring its own shares by purchase. The amount of the permissible capital payment for the shares in question is £889,999 and the date of the resolution for payment out of capital was 5 November 1996. The Statutory Declaration of the Sole Director and the Auditors' report required by section 173 of the Companies Act 1985 are available for inspection at the Company's registered office. Any creditor of the Company may at any time within the five weeks immediately following the date of the resolution for payment out of capital apply to the Court under section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 for an Order prohibiting the payment.
By Order of the Board.
D F Outram
Secretary
5 November 1996
Registered Office:
Computer Associates House
183-187 Bath Road
Slough
Berkshire SL1 4AA

PUBLIC NOTICES

CARTER Helen May of 5 Helen Court 269 Bath Road, Reading Berkshire died on 8th October 1996 Particulars to Sarjeant & Sheppard Solicitor(s) of 160 Friar Street Reading, Berkshire RG1 1HE before 21st January 1997

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: the Congregation of the Religious of the Assumption
Scheme for the amendment of previous Scheme.
Reference: AS223084/35813
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at Blount Petre & Co, 29 Weymouth Street, London W1N 4LQ or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to The Charity Commission, St Alban's House, 57-60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX quoting the reference above.

CLAYTON, IRENE ZENOBIA of Mead House, Steels Lane, Oxshott, Surrey died on 28 November 1995 particulars to D S Morris & Co, Solicitors, Solicitors of 23 Golden Square, London, W1R 3PA before 10 January 1997

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OBITUARIES

ERIC MALPASS

Eric Malpass, novelist, died on October 16 aged 85. He was born on November 14, 1910.

After twenty years of writing part-time while he worked in various local branches of Barclays Bank, Eric Malpass suddenly came to fame with the publication of his second book, *Morning's at Seven*, in 1965. Its enthusiastic reception encouraged him to resign from the bank two years later, to try to earn his living from authorship.

His superiors at the bank were sternly unsympathetic to what they viewed as a whimsy. Banking in those days proudly provided an ethos of cradle-to-grave security for its diligent and trustworthy functionaries, and even mild deviation from this wholesome norm was discouraged with financial penalties and assurances that the apostate would never be re-employed. Malpass's decision was, indeed, fraught with risk. For although *Morning's at Seven* was well received by the reviewers, it enjoyed only a very modest commercial success in this country. It was left for German audiences to provide Malpass with his livelihood through their enthusiastic welcome for his work.

Fortunately for Malpass, just two months after he had resigned from the bank *Morning's At Seven* was published in Germany as *Morgens um sieben ist die Welt noch in Ordnung*, a title which — more clearly than the English one — indicated its provenance in the grossly sentimental lines of Browning's verse drama *Pippa Passes*. Sentimental or not, within weeks *Morgens um sieben* had reached the top of the *Der Spiegel* bestseller list and the film rights had been sold. The subsequent film was awarded the Goldene Leinwand award for the most popular film of the year. Malpass's future was assured.

Morning's At Seven was also serialised on French television and broadcast across Eastern Europe. Altogether it was published in more than 60 editions in 15 languages.

Malpass was the author of a number of other affectionate and gently humorous novels and short stories. His character, Gaylord, an impish boy with an innocent tendency to ask embarrassing questions and an inclination to get into scrapes, is one of the most endearing boy heroes in British fiction since William Brown.

Eric Lawson Malpass was born in Derby, but moved as a young boy to Coventry where his father worked in the car industry. He was an only child and had a solitary, bookish boyhood. His father was something of an invalid, who struggled to go on working despite his illness. His mother was a local schoolteacher. Frequently left to his own devices, Malpass lived very much in the world of childish imagination which he was later to recreate in his novels.

Among his greatest delights were the weekends when the family retreated to the tumbledown cottage on the banks of the Trent that his grandfather had bought and restored. There three generations of the Malpass family would stay, picnicking in the fields and bathing in the river. The bucolic family scene was one Malpass was always to remember and it formed a backdrop for the antics of his character Gaylord.

Malpass was educated at King Henry VIII School, Coventry. A bright pupil, he would have gone on to further education had his father not died when he was 18. As a result, he had to find a job. He took work in a local branch of Barclays Bank as a junior clerk and was to remain with the bank for almost thirty years, working in branches in Leicester, Derby and Long Eaton, and eventually becoming a chief cashier. But his heart was never in the job, and few of his friends realised how tedious he found it until after he had left.

During the war Malpass was commissioned into the RAF. He wanted to be a navigator, but discovered for the first time that he was colour-blind, and was posted to Egypt for three years instead as an equipment officer. Being a loner, he never much enjoyed mess life.

When the war was over Malpass returned to live in Long Eaton. It was there that he began to write, his idea for his first story — the tale of a husband who murders his wife and buries her under the crazy paving — coming, somewhat to his wife's amused discomfit, as she was helping him to lay their own patio. Malpass sent the story off to several magazines, and one of them published it.

After this he seemed unable to stop writing. He would scheme out his plots as he walked home from the bank for his lunch every day, even though it was a 20-minute journey on foot and his lunch break only an hour long. Every evening, on returning from work, he would sit in his armchair by the fire, pen in hand, writing sometimes until late into the night.

His first published novel was *Beefy Jones*, the story of an amiable but trouble-prone idiot, with many of the characters based on members of Malpass's local parish. When the parishoners read it after its completion they all recognised their neighbours in it, but none recognised himself. Published in Italy, it won the Palma d'Oro for the best humorous story of the year.

After establishing his reputation as a writer with *Morning's at Seven*, he went on to write regularly for *Argosy* magazine and for the BBC. He wrote *Oh My Darling Daughter* (1970), a slightly sickly portrait of the alarms and diversions of middle-class life, and *The Wind Brings up the Rain* (1978), a sentimental novel touched with nostalgia for the bygone England which had existed between the wars. He also wrote a fictionalised but plausible life of Shakespeare, *Sweet William*, and another of Thomas Cranmer.

Malpass was mild and retiring in character, but with a twinkling sense of humour beneath his shy humility. He was often happier with a book than in company, but loved theatre, music and rugby.

He is survived by his wife Muriel, whom he married in 1936, and by their son.

GERMAINE SOLEIL

Germaine Soleil, radio astrologer, died in Paris on October 27 aged 83. She was born in Blois on July 18, 1913.

FOR 23 years Madame Soleil was the brightest star in the galaxy of French astrologers. From telling fortunes in a fairground caravan she gradually progressed to reading the zodiac for politicians, businessmen, writers and artists, and finally for millions on the French radio.

At the height of her popularity the commercial radio station where she worked was receiving up to 20,000 telephone calls a day. Her fame was such that President Pompidou took to answering difficult questions at his Elysée Palace press conferences with: "I am not Madame Soleil."

Her name (which really was Soleil) together with her warm voice, friendly manner and grandmotherly appearance, made her ideally suited to her profession. In this, she had a clear advantage over some of the glamorous young women who joined the fortune-telling boom in her wake, few of whom could match the directness and approachability that she owed, perhaps, to her modest family background and difficult early life.

Germaine Soleil had to start work young when her father, a metalworker, died from injuries sustained in the First World War. On the death of her mother, she supported her four brothers and two sisters by working as a typist. One of her jobs in the 1930s was at the newspaper *La Volonté*.

The paper's backer, Alexandre Stavisky, was later to be the centre of a huge financial scandal and was found shot dead in a chalet in Chamonix which he had rented in Germaine Soleil's name. The scandal brought her fleeting fame of an unwanted kind.

It was only after the Second World War that the sun began to shine for Germaine Soleil. When her plans to run a hat shop ended in failure, she was asked to stand in for an aunt who was a fairground fortune teller. She had found her vocation at last.

Her homespun manner soon won her clients, notably the novelist Maurice André-Gillois, a who had been the wartime French Government representative at the BBC. He introduced her to a wide circle of his friends. Before long, she was able to leave her caravan and open consulting rooms on the Left Bank. More word-of-mouth recommendations enlarged her clientele, until it embraced politicians from the nearby National Assembly, visiting African heads of state, superstitious big businessmen, music hall artistes and popular singers.

One of the latter was Dalida, then a major recording star. Dalida was married to Lucien Morisse, a director of the radio station Europe No 1. In 1970 he went to consult Germaine Soleil about his own future and ended up deciding hers. Morisse was won over not only by the accuracy of her predictions but also by her no-nonsense advice.

She was given a morning radio show and, at the age of 57, became as big a celebrity as some of her clients. She used to say that she brought explanations and hope to large sections of the population. "To some extent I have replaced the priest, the notary, even the friend. My success? Two bits of good sense and very long experience of people."

She knew her astrological signs (she was a Cancer with Scorpio as her rising sign). But it was her jovial and reassuring manner that won her bigger and bigger audiences. Madame Soleil was the beneficiary of what French psychologists called "the grandmother syndrome". As such, she was the successor to Mère Denis, another plump and good-humoured elderly lady, who enjoyed huge success in the 1950s and 1960s as a promoter of consumer goods.

She showed her eternal optimism by marrying for the second time, in 1991 at the age of 78, a 59-year-old Parisian shopkeeper, René Moritz, who survives her. An earlier marriage ended in divorce.

DENIS MULLOCK

Denis Mullock, former personnel director of Shell International, died on October 13 aged 90. He was born on December 5, 1905.

DENIS MULLOCK led a rich and remarkable life. He was born in Southwold, on the Suffolk coast, the elder son of a doctor who had arrived from his native land of Ireland two years earlier. Although he went away to school (he won a scholarship to Uppingham), his Southwold friends included George Orwell (then Eric Blair), with whom he would go rat-shooting and with whose mother he used regularly to play bridge.

After graduating in Classics and geography at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, he joined Shell, and in 1928 went to India as a kerosene salesman. His brief was to travel the country by train (he would sleep on a camp bed on station platforms), visiting villages and encouraging people to use paraffin-oil rather than wood as fuel.

Shell forbade its staff to marry during a first tour with he company. In 1934, howev-r, Denis Mullock proposed y telegram to Peggy Westray, whom he had courted while at Cambridge and met again on is first leave back in England. Although she had never nown him well, she accepted nd sailed to India that October. They were married in Calcutta a fortnight after she rrived; the marriage lasted ntil her death in 1983.

Within Burmah Shell he was rapidly promoted (he was uch a company man that there was talk that he would call his daughters Petronella and Kerosena). At 31 he was representing the Bombay Chamber of Commerce in the Bombay Legislative Assembly. But it was during the Second World War that he did his most important work.

As a member of the Calcutta Light Horse, a Territorial regiment, he was employed by the military from time to time on special assignments; for instance, on the day of Pearl Harbor he was playing bridge with the Governor of Goa where he had been sent to assess the degree of pro-German feeling in the Portuguese colony.

His signal contribution to the war effort, however, was to ensure an unbroken flow of fuel to the Army and, in particular, to the British Fleet based at Trincomalee, a major logistical achievement given that the tankers from the Gulf had to cross the submarine-infested Indian Ocean.

He returned to England in 1950 and became group personnel co-ordinator, Shell International. This was a tough assignment, in which he was answerable for imposing some consistency on the way the company's offices were run worldwide. He played a major role in creating the new group personnel organisation, such matters having until then been run more or less separately from London and The Hague.

He retired from Shell in 1964, but not from public life. In addition to chairing the Civil Service Commission's final selections boards, he was closely concerned with setting up Voluntary Services Overseas. By this time he had moved back to Southwold, and ever the doctor's son, he became involved in hospital management, chairing numerous committees and tribunals.

When his father had been looking for a practice to buy at the beginning of the century he had been drawn to Southwold because it had a cottage hospital. When it, and other local hospitals, were under threat in the 1960s, Mullock, as chairman of the geriatric hospitals committee, campaigned vigorously against their closure. In that part of Suffolk there still remain three such hospitals within 20 or so miles of each other.

Denis Mullock was tirelessly social. Each day at noon, he could be found in the back bar of the Crown on Southwold High Street, with his regular drinking companions. His ninetieth birthday last year was marked by two huge parties, one in London and one in Southwold.

He is survived by two daughters and a son.

COLIN DAVIES

Colin Davies, racehorse trainer, died on October 31 aged 68. He was born on May 23, 1928.

PERSIAN WAR was one of the greatest performers over timber ever to grace the National Hunt scene. He captured the Champion Hurdle three times between 1968 and 1970 and, while Colin Davies's achievement in saddling him to do so was remarkable in itself, the circumstances under which he produced the horse for consecutive victories make the training feat nothing less than astonishing.

The first difficulty, to put it mildly, was Persian War's owner, Henry Alper, an insurance loss assessor who had never had a runner before and who, for racing colours, had chosen the claret and light blue of West Ham FC. No doubt with business experience in mind, Alper, despite a minimal knowledge of racing, was determined to take a direct hand in stable arrangements. This involved bombarding his trainers (five in succession in the end) with telephone calls at all hours of the day and night.

The late Brian Swift had bought Persian War as a four-year-old with winning form on Alper's behalf for £10,000 in January, 1967. Despite Swift, then training at Ashtead, sending Persian War out to win some important races, Alper, towards the end of that year, without consulting the trainer, had his horse sent to France in order to avoid the temporary ban on racing in England because of foot and mouth disease.

The result, not surprisingly, was a split between Swift and Alper, and when he returned from France, Persian War was sent to Davies's yard at Chepstow. But when he arrived, he was physically in a terrible state, having hated his time across the Channel and having, additionally, contracted a serious chill. It speaks volumes for Davies's skill that by the end of January the horse was once again fit enough to race. Davies, furthermore, continued to improve Persian War, whom he personally rode in all his work. The reward was that the following month there came a triumph in the most valuable handicap hurdle in the calendar, the Schweppes Gold Trophy — then, in March, the first Champion Hurdle crown.

Yet Persian War's subsequent two Champion Hurdles were also preceded by crises which Davies's talents were stretched to deal with. In 1969, the horse was nursed back to recovery from a fractured femur; in 1970, after being run at Alper's insistence on firm ground on the Flat, he became lame and then had to survive an operation to relieve breathing problems. The Cheltenham crowd which gathered round the winner's enclosure after the Champion Hurdle cheered not only a great horse but the brilliance of his trainer as well.

Colin Hughes Davies was the son of a Cardiff property developer and was educated at Clifton College and Bristol University. He did his National Service in the Royal Navy and became a Fleet Air Arm pilot: a noteworthy achievement since the Admiralty chose only a handful of the best National Servicemen for flying training.

Colin Davies in his riding days on West of the Border, on right, at Windsor in 1966

He joined the family firm in 1950, and soon afterwards began to make a name for himself in motor-racing circles, competing at international level in production sports models. Among his successes was the Grand Prix de Frontiers in Belgium in a Lotus. In 1957, he gave up driving in order to concentrate on business, but soon found an interest as an amateur rider over jumps.

This was an inherited pursuit because his grandmother belonged to the Anthony family, famous in the National Hunt world. Davies's new career took in point-to-point success at the highest level, then no fewer than 20 winning rides under Rules, including that of Master Copper, whom he owned and had taken out a permit to train, in the United Hunt's Challenge Cup at Cheltenham in 1960.

In 1963, Davies took out a full training licence, having bought the Oakgrove Estate at Chepstow and converted it from a derelict dairy farm to a completely modern stable yard with extensive new gallops. He continued to ride, nevertheless, and in 1964 rode Claymore in the Grand National, thereby, although unplaced, setting a unique, if somewhat bizarre, record as the only man ever to have completed the Aintree steeplechase course and driven round its motor racing circuit.

Persian War apart, Davies trained other good horses such as Persian Empire, winner of the 1968 Imperial Cup; Clever Scott, who took the Lancashire Hurdle and, on the Flat, the Great Metropolitan Handicap in 1969; and Dulwich who twice won the Grand Annual Chase at Cheltenham, in 1974 and 1976.

Aside from his many talents, Colin Davies was immensely likeable and popular.

He leaves a wife, Helena, a son and a daughter.

Weekend anniversaries

ODAY

IRTHS: Ivan Turgenev, nov-ist and dramatist, Orel, Rus-a, 1818; King Edward VII, igned 1901-10, London, 1841; r Giles Gilbert Scott, archi-t, London, 1880.

EATHS: William Camden, iquary and historian, Chis-urst, Kent, 1623; Gilbert eldon, Archbishop of Can-bury 1663-77, London, 1677; al Sandby, watercolourist, ndon, 1809; Montague Low-Corry, 1st Baron Rowton, itician and founder of wton Houses, London, 3; Howard Pyle, illustrator l a[illegible]ior of children's ks, Florence, 1911; Guil-ne Apollinaire, poet, Paris, ; Ramsay MacDonald, ne Minister 1924, 1929-31 1931-35, at sea en route for h America, 1937; Neville mberlain, Prime Minister 1937-40, near Heckfield, Hampshire, 1940; Chaim Weizmann, first President of Israel 1949-52, Rehovat, 1952; Dylan Thomas, poet, New York, 1953; Charles de Gaulle, General, President of France 1958-69, Colombey-les-deux-Eglises, 1970.

Wilhelm II, German Emperor 1888-1918, abdicated, 1918.

John F. Kennedy was elected US President at the age of 43, 1960.

The demolition of the Wall dividing East and West Berlin began, 1989.

TOMORROW

BIRTHS: Martin Luther, Protestant reformer, Eisleben, Germany 1483; Paracelsus, physician, Einsiedeln, Switzerland, 1493; Robert Devereux, 2nd Earl of Essex, soldier and courtier, Netherwood, Herefordshire, 1566; François Couperin (Le Grand), composer, Paris, 1668; King George II, reigned 1727-60, Herrenhausen, Germany, 1683; William Hogarth, painter and engraver, London, 1697; Oliver Goldsmith, writer, Kilkenny West, Co Westmeath, 1730; Granville Sharp, philanthropist, Durham, 1735; Johann Christoph Friedrich Schiller, dramatist and poet, Marbach, Germany, 1759; Sir John Thompson, Prime Minister of Canada 1892-93, Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1844; Edward John Higgins, General of the Salvation Army 1929-34, Highbridge, Somerset, 1864; Vachel Lindsay, poet, Springfield, Illinois, 1879; Sir Jacob Epstein, sculptor, New York, 1880; Moise Tshombe, Prime Minister of Congo 1964-65, 1919; Richard Burton, actor, Pontrhydfen, 1925.

DEATHS: Richard Chancellor, navigator and trader, Pitsligo Bay, Aberdeenshire, 1556; Catherine II, the Great, Empress of Russia 1762-96, St Petersburg, 1796; Gideon Martell, geologist, London, 1852; Arthur Rimbaud, poet, Marseilles, 1891; Kemal Ataturk, founder and 1st President of Turkey (1923-38), 1938; Lupino Lane, music-hall performer, 1959; Abel Gance, film director, Paris, 1981; Leonid Brezhnev, President of the Soviet Union 1977-82, Moscow, 1982; Sir Gordon Richards, jockey, Kintbury, Berkshire, 1986.

The US Marine Corps was founded, 1775.

Henry Morton Stanley met Dr Livingstone at Ujiji, Tanganyika (Tanzania), 1871.

ON THIS DAY

November 9, 1888

The reference to James Hannington, Bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa, is to his murder on October 21, 1885, by King Mwanga.

ARAB SLAVERS IN UGANDA.

A communication of quite recent date from the Rev. Père Lourdel, one of the Roman Catholic missionaries in Uganda, gives a very vivid picture of how the slave traffic is carried on in Central Africa, and how the Arab slavers have been inciting the weak-minded King of Uganda against English and Germans alike. This conduct may to some extent account for the events which have led to the joint action of England and Germany in East Africa. Moreover, Père Lourdel is able to give news from Emin Pasha up to April last.

These Arab slavers, the Père states, reside for a part of the year at the Court of Mwanga, to purchase the slaves which the King causes to be hunted and captured either in his own territories or in those of his neighbours. He often sends out on these slave-raids armies of several thousand men. At too frequent intervals the missionaries, to their grief, see these victorious armies returning, driving before them troops of slaves, often 3,000 or 4,000 at a single time. The King selects those he wants to keep for himself or to distribute among his great chiefs, and sends the rest to the Moslem slave-dealers, who sweep them all off, either to sell them on the coast to the dealers who supply the Arabian market or to dispose of them in Upper Egypt. It is a profitable business, which enriches the Arab slavers and at the same time procures for King Mwanga all that he requires for extending his territory, confirming his power, and multiplying his slaves and his victims — namely, arms and powder. These Arabs are, of course, feared and detested by the natives among whom they live, but at the same time their power over the weak Mwanga is immense. They constantly instil into him suspicions as to the projects of Europeans and missionaries, and that with only too much success. When, Père Lourdel states, Mr. Gordon, the successor of Mr. Mackay in the English mission, arrived, the Arabs translated a long letter to the King in Arabic, in which he was informed of the "resolution" which the European Powers had taken to "eat" up all the country of the blacks . . . Mr. Gordon brought a present for Bishop Parker, and a letter stating that he had not come to avenge the death of Bishop Hannington, but to instruct his people. Mwanga was extremely irritated, and told Mr. Gordon he would be regarded as a prisoner and a hostage in case of the reported design of the Europeans. If the English attacked Uganda or assailed Mwanga'a "merchandise" on the coast, Mr. Gordon would be killed. Turning to his people, he cried, in a voice trembling with rage, "Do you see how this white insults me to my face? Hoot him; insult him!" And all the Court hurled the greatest insults in the face of poor Mr. Gordon. The intentions ascribed by the King to the whites make him fear a war as imminent. "Buy guns and powder", he tells all his people; and his chiefs protest they will defend him to the last drop of their blood, and that, though the whites should come from all quarters, they will be exterminated. But the great danger at Uganda and in Central Africa is not from the reported intentions of the whites, but from the actual doings of the Arabs . . .

THE TIMES TODAY

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9 1996

NEWS

Tories get free vote on the cane

■ John Major has decided to bow to the demands of Conservative backbenchers by granting them a free vote on the return of corporal punishment in state schools.

The move is designed to defuse a potential revolt among Tory MPs who want the Government to be doing more to tackle the problem of school discipline .... **Page 1**

Chirac backs Britain on 48-hour week

■ President Chirac gave John Major surprise backing for his *determination not to give way to Brussels* over a 48-hour working week. M Chirac stunned British ministers at the end of the Anglo-French summit when he offered support for the challenge in the European Court of Justice .... **Page 1**

Damaging job

Steve Coppell resigned after only 33 days as the Manchester City manager, saying that the pressure of the job at the first division club was damaging his health.. **Page 1**

Adams anger

Sinn Fein reacted angrily to the decision of the Australian Government to refuse a visa to Gerry Adams........ **Page 2**

Bullying case victory

A woman who claims that her life was blighted by bullying in her schooldays defeated an attempt to *stop* her suing .... **Page 3**

Strike boy to move

The mother of the ten-year-old boy whose unruly behaviour caused a teachers' strike agreed to move him to another school........ **Page 7**

Missing youngsters

Police searching for clues to further victims of the mass killer Frederick West have been unable to trace four youngsters .... **Page 9**

Director's defence

The director of *Crash*, a film exploring the supposed sado-masochistic attraction of bodies mutilated by car crashes, defended himself........ **Page 11**

Bishop's admission

The first African consecrated as an English bishop has admitted jailing innocent people as an Idi Amin magistrate........ **Page 14**

Khan election fight

Imran Khan announced plans to contest Pakistan's general election due in February........ **Page 15**

Zaire aid alert

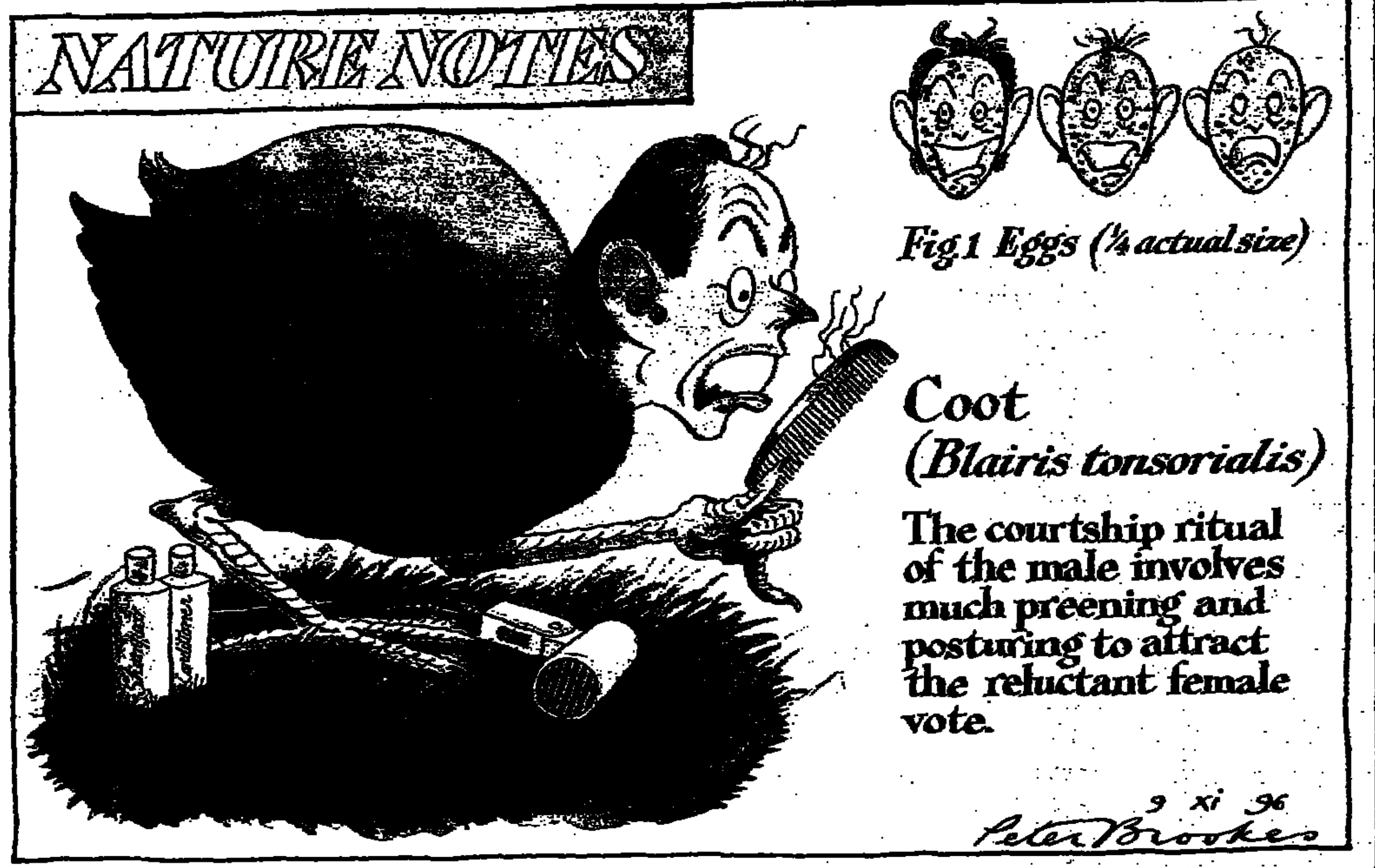
The Prime Minister held out the prospect of sending British troops *to help to get humanitarian aid to* eastern Zaire .... **Page 17**

Monuments warning

Historians have told President Chirac that any attempt to move mouldings of Greek and Roman monuments at Versailles would cause damage........ **Page 19**

Atherton bowls out his team's wives

■ Cricketers' wives were split by a decision by Mike Atherton, the England captain, to urge them to stay away from this winter's tour of Zimbabwe and New Zealand. The ban follows concern about the 1995-96 tour when about 45 wives, girlfriends, *children and nannies were considered a distraction*........ **Page 1**


NATURE NOTES
Fig.1 Eggs (¼ actual size)
Coot
(Blairis tonsorialis)
The courtship ritual of the male involves much preening and posturing to attract the reluctant female vote.
9 xi 96
Peter Brookes

OPINION

Buccaneers for Britain: Conservatives must convey a new sense of purpose. That purpose should be to reacquaint Britain with its true traditions as a global trading nation........ **Page 23**

Plasters of Paris: Nymphs, caryatids and columns filling the space which Versailles wants to turn into a tourist reception centre played their part in forming Europe's idea of itself........ **Page 23**

LETTERS

Zaire; Irish language; human rights; moral values **Page 23**

COLUMNS

Simon Jenkins: Britain has created in Hong Kong a technologically advanced city that is over-developed. To make it work requires justice, civil liberty and administrative competence that British colonialism supplied ...... **Page 22**

Sue Cameron: Whitehall knows of no spectacle so depressing as the British political class in one of its periodic fits of morality........ **Page 22**

OBITUARIES

Eric Malpass, novelist; **Germaine Soleil,** astrologer; **Denis Mullock,** of Shell**Page 25**

BUSINESS

Gas bills cut: British Gas has reached agreement with Ofgas, the regulator, to a cut of £7 in average domestic gas bills next year........ **Page 27**

Bid reference: Northern Electric shares fell because of a possible reference of the bid by CE Electric........ **Page 27**

Maxwell: The return of a trust's shares ended a battle to reclaim £400 million for the pension funds .... **Page 27**

Markets: The FTSE 100 rose 10.4 to 3910.8. Sterling fell 0.1 to 90.8, down from $1.6468 to $1.6455 and DM2.4826 to DM2.4781 .... **Page 30**

Football: Tony Adams will captain England in their World Cup qualifying match against Georgia........ **Page 52**

Boxing: Great heights of courage or new depths of wretchedness could be reached when Mike Tyson and Evander Holyfield meet in Las Vegas .... **Page 52**

Cricket: Ed Giddins's appeal against his 18-month suspension for taking cocaine was rejected .... **Page 46**

Traffic calming: How the humps cut accidents.

Richard Morrison: It is worth remembering that the tradition of writing, drawing or singing about the killing fields is as ancient as war" ...... **Page 21**

Garden Prince: The Royal Ballet revived Kenneth MacMillan's *Prince of the Pagodas* with Darcey Bussell excelling........ **Page 21**

Grunge: Screaming Trees, one of the last of the American grunge bands, played a storming gig in London."A band whose moment had come", writes David Sinclair.... **Page 21**

MAGAZINE

Tim Henman: Can he be a world-beater?........ **Page 8**

Border crisis: Unwanted frontier babies........ **Page 16**

Hitler's bankers.. **Page 31**

Weekend

Cleopatra: Unveiling Alexandria........ **Pages 1, 2**

Property: Defects; classical designs........ **Pages 8-11**

Travel: Zimbabwe; Austria; Finland.. **Pages 17-23**

10 15

Win: A colour TV and VCR........ **Page 3**

Win: A one-year cinema pass........ **Page 11**

Seven-day TV and radio guide........ **Pages 23-50**

Food........ **Page 34**

Books........ **Pages 1-12**

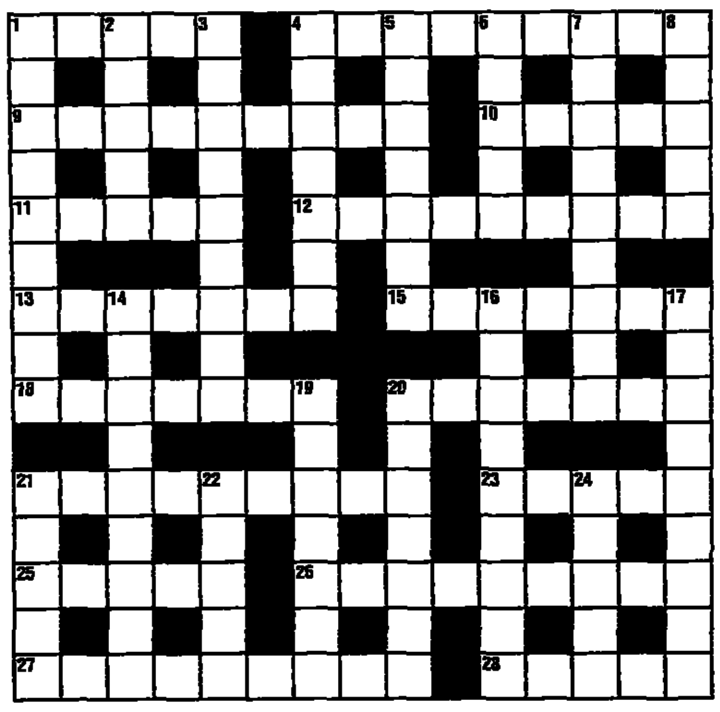
Entertainment........ **13-22**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,321

A limited edition, 1970 vintage bottle of Aberlour single malt whisky, the only malt whisky to have twice won the prestigious Gold Medal and Pot Still Trophy at the International Wine & Spirit Competition, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address ....

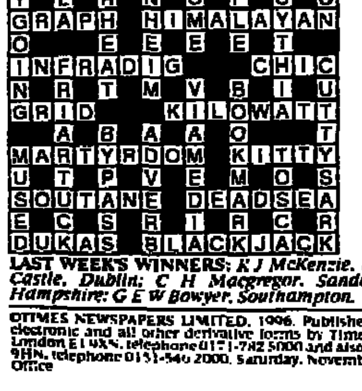
....



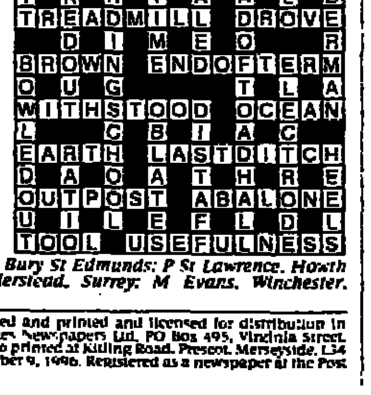
ACROSS
- 1 Scot's sane, though he's prone to wander (5).
- 4 Self-confessed drug-taker's critic (2,7).
- 9 Crook given tail, an amateur lawman (9).
- 10 Play doctor and nurse endlessly (5).
- 11 Pluck shown by leaders of the women agitating near Greenham (5).
- 12 It controls canvas in the same fashion (9).
- 13 Battle to get back, for instance, Newgate Calendar (7).
- 15 Display and performance cancelled (4,3).
- 18 *Having no boundaries from spell* of bowling? Not so! (7).
- 20 Shall we first reduce pieces of meat? (7).
- 21 Ceremoniously perform some lines specially written (9).
- 23 Sweet stuff! (5).
- 25 *Government* leader's *in control*, as a rule (5).
- 26 Dances, note, and song orchestrated (9).
- 27 Stars as so-called lexicographer (5,4).
- 28 Pulled back to the middle? Not I! (5).

DOWN
- 1 Refusal to spoil probationary period (9).
- 2 Mother inserts key material in mantle (5).
- 3 Coach making application (9).
- 4 Energetic detectives gather a large number up (7).
- 5 Challenges disconcerted esquire (7).
- 6 Try leaving 3 in river (5).
- 7 *Guy, king's only companion* (9).
- 8 Fungus as yet staying outside (5).
- 14 Sponge produced at home, in general (9).
- 16 Beyond control in a trick? (3,2,4).
- 17 Songwriter's supported by child in care (6-3).
- 19 *Music from boat on lake? Ecstasy!* (7).
- 20 Colt gets thinner, more streamlined (7).
- 21 Child features in news programme (5).
- 22 Gathered round an artist (5).
- 24 Established beliefs do for leading scholar in 2 (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,315



Solution to Puzzle No 20,320



LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: K J McKenzie, Bury St Edmunds; P St Lawrence, Howth Castle, Dublin; C H Macgregor, Sanderstead, Surrey; M Evans, Winchester, Hampshire; G E W Bowyer, Southampton.

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises: 7.09 am Sun sets: 4.20 pm
Moon sets 3.46 pm *Moon rises* 4.52 am

New moon November 11

London 4.20 pm to 7.10 am
Bristol 4.30 pm to 7.20 am
Edinburgh 4.16 pm to 7.39 am
Manchester 4.21 pm to 7.26 am
Penzance 4.46 pm to 7.28 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 7.10 am Sun sets: 4.18 pm
Moon sets 4.17 pm Moon rises 6.02 am

New moon tomorrow

London 4.18 pm to 7.12 am
Bristol 4.28 pm to 7.22 am
Edinburgh 4.14 pm to 7.41 am
Manchester 4.20 pm to 7.28 am
Penzance 4.44 pm to 7.29 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	0.01	6.5	12.19	6.5
Aberdeen	-	-	12.09	4.1
Avonmouth	5.37	12.2	5.56	12.5
Belfast	9.49	3.3	9.48	3.4
Cardiff	5.25	10.7	5.42	11.1
Devonport	4.16	5.1	4.30	5.3
Dover	9.27	6.4	9.39	6.4
Dublin (N Wall)	10.15	3.9	10.26	4.0
Falmouth	3.27	4.7	3.44	4.8
Greenock	11.31	3.3	11.18	3.4
Harwich	1.02	3.8	10.39	3.9
Holyhead	8.52	5.3	9.06	5.4
Hull (Albert D)	4.32	7.0	5.01	7.3
Ilfracombe	4.25	9.7	4.41	9.9
King's Lynn	4.50	5.7	5.10	6.0
Leith	3.53	5.2	1.15	5.3
Liverpool	2.43	8.8	10.02	9.0
Lowestoft	7.45	2.5	8.27	2.5
Margate	10.25	4.5	10.53	4.5
Milford Haven	4.43	6.5	4.58	6.7
Newquay	3.33	6.0	3.50	6.2
Oban	4.27	3.7	4.34	3.9
Penzance	3.04	5.2	3.21	5.3
Portland	5.08	1.9	5.19	1.9
Portsmouth	9.51	4.5	10.05	4.5
Shoreham	9.22	6.0	9.58	5.9
Southampton	9.17	4.5	9.34	4.4
Swansea	4.53	8.9	5.10	9.1
Tees	1.57	5.0	2.24	5.1
Walton-on-Naze	10.11	4.1	10.37	4.1

Crown copyright reserved All tide times are GMT

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: Highest day temp: Guernsey, 15C (59F); lowest day max: Tulloch Bridge, Highland, 3C (37F); highest rainfall: Capel Curig, Gwynedd, 0.75in; highest sunshine: Bournemouth, and Leuchars, 7.8hr

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have a mixture of sunshine and showers, the showers mostly in the north and west, the best of the sunshine in the east. A brisk westerly wind will make it feel rather chilly. *At best, temperatures will only* reach normal values.

Heavy showers will soon clear from Northern Ireland and southern Scotland *in the morning, allowing sunny spells to* develop in all parts. However, some showers will persist, mainly over north and west Scotland, with some snow on the mountains. Quite cold generally, but the strong winds will steadily moderate.

☐ **London, E Anglia, E Midlands, E, Cent N England:** Mostly bright or sunny, *a few showers* in the afternoon. Wind west or southwest mostly fresh, perhaps strong. Max 9C to 11C (48F to 52F).

☐ **SE, Cent S, NW England, W Midlands, Wales:** Sunny spells and some showers, especially on coasts. Wind west or southwest moderate or fresh Max 9C to 11C (48F to 52F).

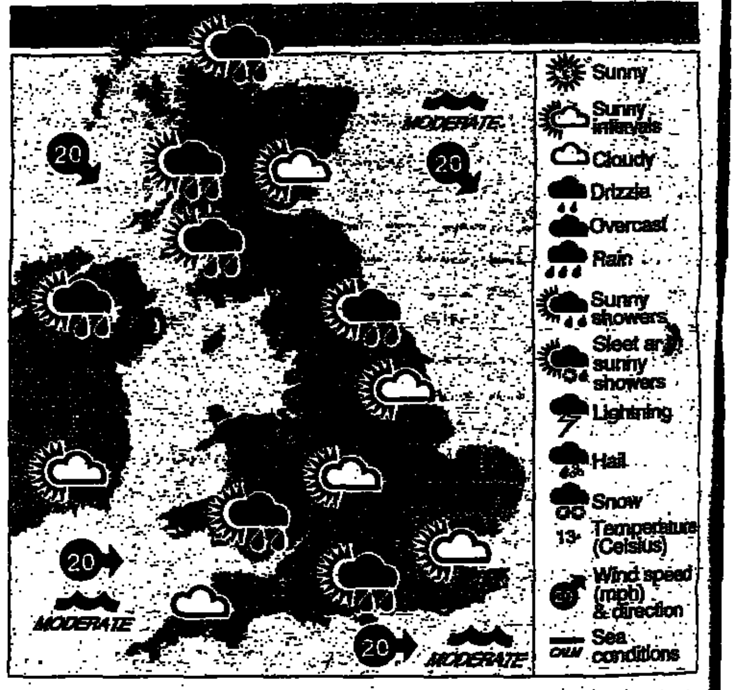
☐ **Channel Isles, SW England:** Few showers at first, but cloud and occasional rain by evening. Wind west or southwest fresh, decreasing later. Max 11C (52F).

☐ ***Lakes, IoM, NE England, Borders,* Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland:** Some heavy showers at first, fewer and lighter later. *Wind mainly west strong, but decreasing.* Max 8C to 10C (46F to 50F).

☐ **Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** Sunny intervals *and showers, some heavy for a* while. Wind north or north-est strong, but decreasing. Max 4C to 6C (39F to 43F).

☐ **Cent Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland:** *Sunny intervals and scattered* showers, snow on hills. Wind north or northwest fresh or strong, decreasing. Max 7C to 9C (45F to 48F).

☐ **Outlook:** Showers at first in the north, cloud and rain spreading to all parts later.



AROUND BRITAIN

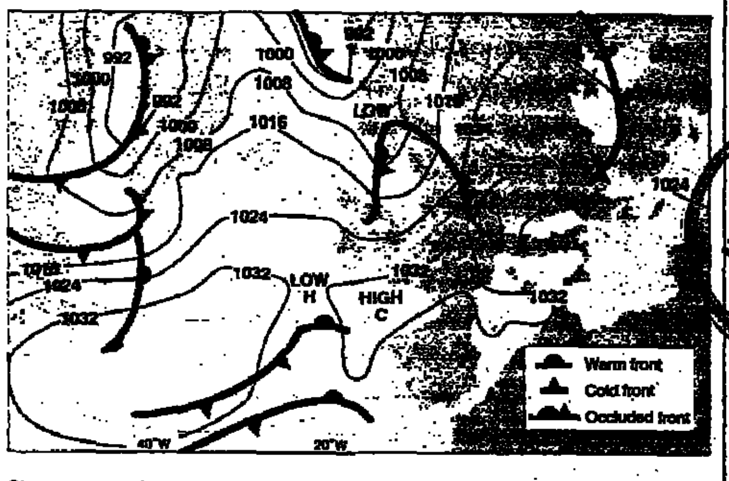
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	7.8	0.01	6	43	s	Littlehmptn	6.6	0.07	13	55	sh
Anglesey	X					London	3.6	0.03	12	54	t
Aspatria	3.2	0.01	7	45	s	Lowestoft	0.2	0.20	10	50	sh
Aviemore	5.1	0.02	5	41	s	Manchester	0.3	0.50	7	45	sh
Belfast	4.2	0.12	8	46	b	Margate	4.0	0.03	12	54	r
Birmingham	2.1	0.13	10	50	sh	Minehead	5.9	0.55	12	54	sh
Bognor R	*7.1*	*0.12*	*13*	*55*	sh	*Morecambe*	*1.5*	*0.15*	*8*	*46*	r
Bournem'th	7.8	0.07	13	55	s	Newquay	X				
Bristol	4.4	0.65	12	54	sh	Norwich	0.6	0.41	9	48	r
Buxton	-	0.28	5	41	r	Oxford	4.7	0.20	11	52	sh
Cardiff	5.2	0.56	11	52	h	Penzance	X	0.13	13	55	sh
Clacton	X					*Poole*	*7.0*	*0.14*	*14*	*57*	s
Cleethorpes	X					Prestatyn	X	0.54	8	46	r
Colwyn Bay	-	0.64	8	46	r	Ross-o-wye	5.0	0.13	11	52	sh
Cromer	-	0.14	9	48	sh	Sandown	6.8	0.38	13	55	sh
Dunbar	X					Saunton Snd	4.5	0.24	13	55	s
Eastbourne	6.9	0.26	13	55	s	*Scarboro'*	*2.9*	*0.01*	*7*	*45*	b
Edinburgh	5.3	0.35	8	46	s	Shanklin	5.4	0.45	12	54	s
Eskdalemuir	4.0	0.07	6	43	fg	Shrewsbury	1.4	0.17	10	50	sh
Exmouth	6.3	0.13	13	55	s	Skegness	-	0.05	8	46	sh
Falmouth	7.5	0.14	14	57	s	Southport	-	0.73	7	45	sh
Fishguard	3.2	0.65	9	48	h	Southsea	7.1	0.07	13	55	sh
Folkestone	5.3	0.19	13	55	sh	Stornoway	3.2	0.14	5	41	h
Glasgow	6.0	0.26	8	46	s	Swanage	7.3	0.18	13	55	s
Guernsey	7.1	0.27	15	59	sh	Teignmouth	6.3	0.17	13	55	sh
Hastings	5.6	0.34	13	55	sh	Tenby	5.4	0.27	12	54	sh
Hayling I.	7.6	0.08	13	55	sh	Tiree	4.4	0.03	9	48	sh
Herne Bay	*5.0*	*0.04*	*11*	*52*	b	Torquay	6.8	0.15	13	55	s
Hove	3.9	0.11	13	55	b	Tynemouth	-	0.01	7	45	b
Hunstanton	-	0.19	9	48	sh	Ventnor	6.2	0.24	13	55	s
Ilfracombe	X					West-s-mare	2.4	0.51	12	54	h
Isle of Man	1.3	0.22	7	45	r	Weymouth	6.6	0.16	13	55	s
Jersey	*6.3*	*0.11*	*14*	*57*	*h*						
Leeds	0.6	0.19	8	46	r						
Lerwick	3.2	0.06	5	41	h						
Leuchars	7.8	0.06	7	45	s	These are Thursday's figures					

ABROAD

	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	19	66	f	Corfu	19	66	s	Majorca	20	68	f	Rome	17	63	f
Akrotiri	22	72	s	C'phagn	8	46	f	Malaga	20	68	s	S Fr'isco	17	63	s
Alex'dria	24	75	f	*Dublin*	*6*	*43*	r	*Malta*	21	70	f	*S Paulo*	32	90	c
Algiers	20	68	s	Dubrovnik	19	66	f	Melb'rne	17	63	s	Salzburg	15	59	c
Amst'dm	9	48	r	Faro	20	68	s	Mexico C	22	72	s	Santiago	18	64	c
Athens	21	70	s	Florence	19	66	f	Miami	29	84	s	Seoul	10	50	c
B Aires	19	66	f	Frankfurt	10	50	r	Milan	13	55	c	Sing'por	29	84	f
Bahrain	*29*	*82*	s	*Funchal*	*22*	*72*	s	*Montreal*	*12*	*54*	s	St'kholm	*4*	*39*	f
Bangkok	33	91	f	Geneva	14	57	f	Moscow	7	45	c	Strasb'rg	13	55	c
Barbados	X			Gibraltar	19	66	s	Munich	15	59	r	Sydney	X		
Barcelona	18	64	s	Helsinki	5	41	r	N Delhi	27	81	s	Tangier	23	73	s
Beirut	22	72	f	Hong K	30	86	s	N York	20	68	c	Tel Aviv	22	72	f
Belgrade	21	*70*	s	*Innsbrck*	*14*	*57*	f	*Nairobi*	*19*	*66*	c	Tenerife	24	75	s
Berlin	12	54	f	Istanbul	14	57	f	Naples	21	70	f	Tokyo	15	59	f
Bermuda	23	73	f	Jeddah	31	88	s	Nice	18	64	s	Toronto	19	66	f
Biarritz	19	66	c	Jo'burg	25	77	f	Oslo	6	43	s	Tunis	20	68	f
Bordo'x	15	59	f	L Angels	19	66	s	Paris	14	57	f	Valencia	21	70	s
Brussels	9	48	r	*L Palmas*	26	79	*s*	Peking	*10*	*50*	s	Vanc'ver	*9*	48	s
Budapst	16	61	s	Le Tquet	13	55	f	Perth	22	72	f	Venice	12	54	c
Cairo	23	73	s	Lisbon	18	64	s	Prague	10	50	f	Vienna	15	59	c
Cape Tn	21	70	f	Locarno	13	55	s	Reykjavik	-6	21	s	Warsaw	14	57	f
Ch'church	16	61	X	Luxembg	11	52	f	Rhodes	21	70	s	Wash'ton	20	68	c
Chicago	*6*	*43*	f	Luxor	26	79	s	*Rio de J*	29	84	f	Wel'ngton	*16*	*61*	X
Cologne	9	48	r	Madrid	15	59	s	Riyadh	31	88	s	Zurich	14	57	s

Temperatures at midday local time on Thursday X = not available



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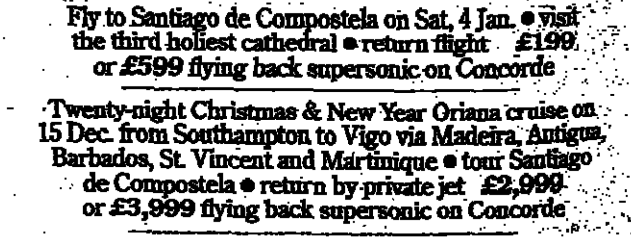

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